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OCI 4885
1 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered patrol clashes and several enemy probes up to platoon size were reported across the Eighth Army front. Occasional enemy mortar and artillery fire, including 26 shells with propaganda leaflets, was encountered.

Navy

Naval air units flew 269 sorties, principally against east coast transportation targets. Shore bombardment continued on both coasts.

Air

The Far East Air Force flew 313 sorties, including 26 missions by medium bombers against the Chinnampo and Hamhung marshalling yards and traffic choke points west and northeast of Sinanju. In three engagements with a total of 40 MIG's, 88 F-86's destroyed six MIG's and damaged two. One F-86 sustained minor damage.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

US naval aircraft pilots observed on 27 March that an airfield at Chongjin in northeastern Korea was being resurfaced with a black material. There was evidence of much vehicular traffic in the vicinity of the airfield and supplies for a hangar framework were seen in the Chongjin railyard. (Chongjin airfield, much farther from the front lines than Antung, offers little advantage for Communist air operations against UN ground installations. It is, however, strategically situated for operations against UN naval forces operating off northeastern Korea. This airfield has been almost continuously operational, but little activity has ever been noted there. Unconfirmed intelligence reports have indicated that a North Korean air force unit with some unidentified operational aircraft is stationed here.)

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III. General Situation

Cease-fire

South Korean Foreign Minister Pyun, commenting on the cease-fire talks, stated that if the Russians were allowed as a neutral inspection team, "it would be tantamount to moral defeat. . .and succumbing to the USSR." On the question of prisoners of war, Pyun held that no prisoners should be forcibly repatriated. He added that the Chinese Nationalist Government had requested the ROK to retain custody of those Chinese prisoners who do not wish to return to Red China until such time as they can be transferred to Formosa.

Propaganda

Radio Pyongyang on 31 March gave an interim report on the alleged US biological warfare effort in Korea. The broadcast charged that from 20 January through 25 March, the US had dropped germ-laden insects on more than 400 occasions.

The broadcast concluded with a summary of the detailed preventive measures taken in Pyongyang.

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OGI 4886
2 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The enemy launched a two-battalion attack against US First Marine Division positions in the US I Corps zone 25 miles north of Seoul, forcing a withdrawal. A counterattack restored the Marine positions. The Communists also launched a battalion size attack against the ROK Sixth Division in the US IX Corps zone and light probes occurred elsewhere across the front.

Navy

Naval air and surface units continued interdiction of enemy supply lines on both coasts.

Air

Aircraft of the Far East Air Force destroyed 10 MIG-15's, probably destroyed three, and damaged 10 in four engagements between Sinuiju and Sinanju. One F-86 was lost and a second received minor damage. A total of 382 MIG-15's and three Type 15's were sighted, of which 87 were engaged. The Far East Air Force flew a total of 1200 sorties, including 14 medium bomber sorties against railroad targets west of Sinanju.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Psychological Warfare

A representative of the Far East Command's psychological warfare office has informed the US Ambassador in Formosa that the majority of Chinese prisoners of war in Korea would, if permitted, choose to be repatriated to Formosa. The FECOM officer also stated that further surrender of Chinese Communist troops is being inhibited by the absence of any assurance that they will be sent to a safe place and not returned to Communist China.

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OCI 4887
3 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Enemy company and squad size probes and light patrol contacts were encountered across the Eighth Army front. Friendly forces maintained positions and patrolled. The US First Marine Division in the US I Corps zone received 3,100 rounds of mortar and artillery fire in its sector.

Navy

Naval air and surface interdiction of enemy communications lines continued on both coasts.

Air

FEAF aircraft destroyed five MIG-15's and one Type-15 and damaged four MIG's and one Type-15. One F-86 was lost and three were damaged in the encounters over northwest Korea. FEAF flew a total of 1,263 sorties, of which 868 were combat.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

FEAF reports that recent photo interpretations show a significant decrease in the number of enemy antiaircraft weapons along the principal supply routes in North Korea. During the period from 5 to 25 March, 27 guns and 185 automatic weapons have been removed. At present there are no indications of the redistribution of these weapons at any other points in North Korea. (Since the principal function of Communist antiaircraft weapons in Korea has been the protection of lines of communications, a redistribution at this time seems strange. As of mid-February the enemy was estimated to have almost 400 antiaircraft artillery guns and 1,500 automatic weapons disposed in North Korea.)

III. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4888
4 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Light patrol contacts and one enemy squad-size probe were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Naval air and surface units continued interdiction of enemy communications on both coasts.

Air

In three engagements over northwest Korea, FEAF planes destroyed two MIG-15's, probably destroyed a Type 15, and damaged four MIG's and one Type 15; two F-86's received major damage. FEAF flew a total of 1,078 sorties, including seven medium bomber missions against Sinanju rail targets.

II. Military Intelligence

There have been no significant developments during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

There have been no significant developments during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4889
5 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

In the US 25th Division sector of the US X Corps zone an enemy squad engaged a UN patrol in a seven-hour fight, causing friendly elements to withdraw under cover of smoke and mortar fire.

Navy

Naval air and surface units continued interdiction of enemy communications on both coasts.

Air

FEAF flew 627 sorties, 237 of them combat missions. Included among the latter were 80 close support and 14 medium bomber sorties.

II. Military Intelligence

Guerrillas

Far East Command, in a summary of its operations against Communists guerrillas in South Korea from 1 December 1951 to 14 March 1952, reports that 11,276 individuals were killed and 10,256 were captured. Of those captured, 4,393 have been processed and released, while 5,172 are awaiting processing. The others are awaiting trial, have been sentenced, or have died. Fifty key leaders were killed or captured during operations, which have reduced the number of dissidents and bandits to 3,300 guerrillas operating in groups of 20 to 50 persons with little capability for serious operations. About half of these guerrillas are unarmed.

III. General Situation

Economic

ROK Finance Minister Paek stated in a recent speech that the financial situation in South Korea is "gradually improving." He cited many figures to support his statement and spoke vaguely of various measures taken by the government to check the inflationary "tendency."

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(Paek's speech was probably given merely to bolster the morale of the South Koreans as the inflationary spiral has shown no signs of leveling off. In fact, the US Ambassador in Pusan reported in late March that the retail price of rice had risen so precipitously that it "could touch off a total collapse...of the won.")

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OCI 4890
7 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The First Commonwealth Division in the US I Corps zone received 3,156 rounds of artillery and mortar fire and repelled two company-size enemy attacks. Two platoon-size probes and normal patrol contact were reported elsewhere along the Eighth Army front.

Navy

Naval air and surface units continued interdiction of enemy communications on both coasts.

Air

Of 43 MIG-15's encountered, FEAF aircraft destroyed four, probably destroyed one and damaged six. No friendly casualties were reported. FEAF flew a total of 1,024 sorties, of which 661 were combat.

II. Military Intelligence

Logistics

FEAF reports that the coming of the spring thaws to North Korea will be an added burden to the already battered enemy lines of communications. In one area observed, bomb craters were filled with water and parts of the railroad bed were under water. Coupled with this, the spring floods may further damage the flimsy bridges over rivers in the northwest. Communist awareness of this threat is seen in sightings of car loads of crushed rocks for fill and the building of piers to protect bridges.

III. General Situation

Political

Ambassador Muccio reports that President Rhee opened a 31 March conversation by stating he had been shocked to learn of President Truman's announcement that he would not seek or accept the nomination. Rhee added that one of the real weaknesses of democracy is its changing of leaders in the midst of a crisis. 6

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Muccio interprets Rhee's "shock" as resulting, probably, from the realization that President Truman's announcement might be cited by Rhee's opponents as a worthy example for him to follow.

Propaganda

Radio Peiping on 6 March transmitted some of the "findings" of the Commission of the International Association of Democratic Jurists which recently investigated American biological warfare in Korea. The Jurists stated that "different types of insects were reported found in 169 areas of North Korea." Findings were also made with respect to the use of "gases or chemical weapons by American planes."

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OCI 4891
8 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Action was limited to platoon-size enemy probes at various points along the front; these were repulsed.

Navy

Naval air and surface craft continued the interdiction of enemy supply lines on both coasts.

Air

Poor weather limited air activity as UN land-based aircraft flew 294 sorties including only 89 combat. Four medium bomber missions were flown, three of them against close support targets.

No enemy aircraft were sighted.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

Recent combat intelligence reports received in FECOM indicate that the Chinese Communist 40th Army, deployed in western Hwanghae Province with a coastal security mission, is moving into an assembly area in the Sariwon region. Although there is insufficient information to accept such a movement, FECOM speculates that the 40th Army may be preparing for a more active role. (Unconfirmed reports that the 40th Army was being replaced in Hwanghae Province have been current for some time. Both the 50th Army, accepted in Korea, and elements of the 16th Army, not fully accepted in Korea, have been mentioned as the relieving force.)

Air

During the last two weeks of March, the US Fifth Air Force, operating over Korea, observed the following new developments in the air war: the Communist MIG-15 formations have been encountered at lower altitudes -- between 20,000 and 40,000 feet; the Type 15 jet has appeared again in numbers with some modification of its armament and a greater degree of aggressiveness; the enemy appears to be experimenting with the armament on the MIG-15; and finally, MIG-15's are attacking UN fighter

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bombers more aggressively.

FEAF observes, in regard to the latter, that UN fighter bomber operations have not been placed in any immediate danger by the increased aggressiveness of the MIG's.

III. General Situation

Political

South Korean Prime Minister Chang, after reporting briefly to the National Assembly on the outcome of the ROK mission to the UN General Assembly in Paris, has been "lying very low" since his return on 1 April, according to the US Embassy in Pusan. Chang, who claims he is not strong enough to carry out his duties because of his recent illness, has a statement from a US Army doctor prescribing further rest and he may go aboard the US hospital ship Consolation. The only conversation thus far between President Rhee and the Prime Minister was inconclusive; thus rumors of Rhee's intentions and candidates for the job are still the favorite topics of conversation in Pusan.

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OCI 4592
9 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

There were two small probes in the US X Corps zone; action along the rest of the front was limited to patrolling.

Navy

Because of bad weather conditions UN carrier aircraft flew no missions. Surface craft on both coasts continued interdiction of enemy supply lines.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 757 sorties including 387 combat. Eleven medium bomber missions were flown against targets which included Suncheon north railroad bridge.

Six MIG-15's were observed and encountered with no claims reported.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

South Korean Minister of National Defense Shin has announced that the emergency martial law proclaimed on 1 December 1951 and precautionary martial law proclaimed on 4 April 1951 will be lifted in most of South Korea on 7 April 1952. Shin cited successful anti-guerrilla operations, the advent of the farming season, and impending local elections as the main reasons for the decree. The local elections to be held on 25 April are for city, town and township assemblies in all localities except a few unrehabilitated areas where martial law still exists.

Economic

US Naval intelligence learned from sources ashore that farmers in the Haeju area of western Korea are being treated well by enemy forces in the interest of food

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production. In eastern Korea, however, interrogation of an enemy prisoner reveals that rice, not grown in Korea, and sheep, raised and slaughtered in China, are being shipped into Korea via the east coast rail line. The principal outshipments consist of enemy fuel drums.

Medical

US Naval intelligence reports typhoid cases in one family out of every five in a small North Korean east coast village. The death rate is estimated at 30 percent of those ill.

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OCI 4892
10 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Action across the front was limited to patrol contacts; there was one four-hour clash two miles east of Punji in the US I Corps zone involving elements of the US 1st Marine Division.

Navy

Naval air and surface craft continued interdiction of enemy supply installations.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 856 sorties, including 13 medium bomber attacks on targets including the Sunchon south railroad bridge and the Chinnampo marshalling yards.

II. Military Intelligence

Antiaircraft

Pilots of US Marine Corps aircraft observed a Communist winch-equipped truck traveling southward from Wonsan shortly after midnight on 6 April. The truck was towing two balloons, each from 10 to 15 feet in diameter, secured by 60-foot cables. Small objects, the size of basketballs, were dangling from the balloons. (While this observation is too incomplete to allow accurate evaluation, the description suggests an antiaircraft weapon for use against low flying UN aircraft. It is possible that the smaller objects suspended from the balloons are explosive charges.)

III. General Situation

Medical

An unevaluated US Navy report, gleaned from a recent prisoner of war interrogation, states that smallpox and typhoid "are common" in the area south of Tanchon, North Korea.

Peiping Radio, meanwhile, stated on 8 April 1952 that "there is no epidemic in Korea" and the real purpose of the World Health Organization's offer of assistance in North Korea is "to check on the results of germ warfare for the United States."

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OCI 4894
11 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Two small enemy probes and light patrol activity characterized action along the front.

In the US I and IX Corps zones, there were three instances of attempted line-crossing from north to south by Korean civilians.

Navy

No reports were received from Task Force 77 on the east coast, but west coast carrier planes and surface craft on both coasts continued to interdict enemy supply lines.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 699 sorties including 340 combat. Five medium bomber missions were flown, three against close support targets.

One unidentified aircraft was engaged.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4895
12 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Light enemy probes in squad and platoon strength were encountered across the Eighth Army front. The Communists continued harassing fire with mortar and artillery.

Navy

Naval air and surface units continued interdiction of enemy supply lines on both coasts.

Air

The Far East Air Force flew 781 sorties, of which 463 were combat. No airborne enemy planes were reported sighted or engaged. The bomber command flew 16 sorties in a shoran bombardment of a supply complex in north central Korea.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

25X1C

25X1C

25X1C

[REDACTED] Chinese Communist and North Korean troops are now being issued their summer uniforms. [REDACTED] since such issue is usually made in mid-May, this accelerated schedule, coupled with the supply and troop buildup, may foreshadow an offensive before 1 May.

(While this early issue of summer uniforms may well be related to recently detected signs of preparations for more intensive Communist military operations, it may also be routine. Recent reports have indicated relatively mild temperatures along the battle line.)

Antiaircraft Defense

The Far East Air Force reports that the enemy is continuing a significant redistribution of his antiaircraft defense weapons. The heavily defended main supply route from the Chongchon River south to Pyongyang (44 guns and 101 automatic weapons) lost nearly 50 percent of its protection during the last week in

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March and the first week of April. Similarly, Saamcham airfield in north-western Korea, once heavily defended, no longer has any significant antiaircraft defenses.

Much of this strength has been redeployed northward to protect the main rail lines leading from the Manchurian border into the Sinanju area. The Air Force comments that the most heavily defended areas now are those which recently were the targets of intensive UN fighter bomber attacks. (New antiaircraft artillery positions now being constructed in the Wonsan-Hamhung area in eastern Korea may be destined to receive some of this redeployed strength).

III. General Situation

Political

Radio Pusan on 11 April announced the dismissal of Acting Premier Ho Chong from the ROK cabinet. (Ho has been without official position since Premier Chang Myon returned from Paris. It is probable that Ho's sympathies for the opposition political party were behind his dismissal from the government.)

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OCI 4896
14 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Two enemy attacks in company strength were repulsed in the US I Corps and ROK II Corps zones. Minor patrol clashes and scattered enemy artillery fire were reported elsewhere along the Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units struck at enemy communications on both coasts.

Air

FEAF planes flew a total of 1,164 sorties and in counter-air missions destroyed six MIG-15's, probably destroyed one, and damaged four. No report has yet been received on US casualties. The bomber command flew eight shoran missions against a rail bridge in north central Korea.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

US naval forces off Wonsan in eastern Korea reported that on 10 April the enemy burned brush in the area, apparently to cover daytime train movements.

Also on 10 April, 27 Korean line crossers were apprehended by UN troops in the west and west central sectors. One group claimed to be civilians who had been forced to move by Chinese Communist troops. Only one of the line crossers was armed.

(Efforts to maintain daytime train movements indicate an increased urgency in the enemy's logistical effort. Prior to previous Communist offensives in Korea, it was observed that the enemy always made a considerable intelligence effort, utilizing a large number of low level Korean agents to reconnoiter UN installations.)

Air

A recently captured Chinese soldier reports that on 13 March he observed a Communist radio equipped air-ground liaison team in central Korea near the battle front. He states that the position was in daily contact with other unknown stations.

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The US IX Corps comments that previously reported enemy air-ground liaison teams have been equipped only with panels and flares. The Far East Air Force comments that while this installation may be intended for Communist air-ground support operations, it is doubtful whether the Communists have sufficient suitable aircraft to begin operations of this type.

III. General Situation

Propaganda

British Communist correspondent Winnington reports from Pyongyang on 12 April that "the vapor trails of MIG-15's" over that city have brought "peace" -- at least during daylight hours. After describing a recent encounter between MIG's and UN jets over Pyongyang, he states that the "line of the air battle moves steadily south."

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OCT 4897
15 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Tank elements from the US 40th Division engaged an enemy battalion in the US IX Corps zone. In the ROK II Corps and US X Corps zones, the enemy launched one battalion-size and one company-size attack against the ROK Third and Seventh Divisions.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supply lines on both coasts.

Air

The Far East Air Force flew 782 sorties, including 16 medium bomber sorties against targets at Sinanju, Chinnampo and Sariwon. No enemy aircraft were engaged.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

UN fighter pilots to whom full credence is given observed 450 jet aircraft on Tatung Kuo airfield and 50 on Antung in the early morning of 13 April. Later in the day only 81 aircraft were on Tatung Kuo and 101 were on Antung.

The Far East Air Force believes this unusually heavy concentration may have resulted from (a) bad weather at other Manchurian fields, (b) testing of facilities at Tatung Kuo for large scale staging, or (c) training of pilots in procedures and techniques of operating from a crowded field.

Ground

A recently captured Chinese Communist soldier reports that he belonged to an element of the 38th Chinese Communist Army. At the time of his desertion on 31 March this army was still deployed along the main supply route in northwestern Korea between Sinanju and Pyongyang. (The 38th Army has frequently been reported moving southward for a variety of reasons. This firm location would seem to negate these previous reports.)

III. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4898
16 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered patrol engagements were reported across the US Eighth Army front. In the US I and IX Corps zones, the enemy made probing attacks in strength up to two platoons.

Navy

Air and surface units struck at enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

The Far East Air Force flew 256 sorties, of which 56 were combat. No enemy aircraft were sighted. Nine medium bomber sorties were flown against the Chongju rail bridge.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command reports that a recently captured Chinese Communist artilleryman states that on 5 March he observed 30 armored vehicles, resembling self-propelled artillery, in the area west of Pyongyang in central Korea. His battery commander told him the following day that this armor was from an armored regiment attached to the 12th Chinese Communist Army in east central Korea.

FECOM observes that the number of tank sightings in central and eastern Korea have increased recently, possibly indicating an eastward or southward shift of enemy armor. While it can not be confirmed, it is possible that the Chinese Communist 3rd Armored Division, located in the eastern Wonsan area, has displaced elements southward into this area.

III. General Situation

Political

Foreign Minister Pyon Yeng-tae is soon to be replaced by Yang

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Yu-chan, present Ambassador to the United States. Pyon's fall from favor is reportedly due to his failure to support President Rhee. (It is entirely possible that Pyon is slated for replacement in view of the recent extensive cabinet changes instituted by Rhee. Pyon, however, has demonstrated himself to be a willing tool for the aging President.)

Propaganda

In a 14 April radio broadcast from Pyongyang Premier Kim Ilson was eulogized on the occasion of his 40th birthday, which occurred on 12 April. The broadcast stated that various statues are being erected in his honor at the site of his "victories over the Japanese." (The real Kim Ilson was a near legendary guerrilla chieftain who operated in Manchuria and northeastern Korea against the Japanese. The present Kim Ilson is reliably reported to have served with the Soviet Army in World War II. Following the liberation of Korea from the Japanese, a deliberate fiction was invented by the Communists alleging that the present Premier Kim is the same man as the famous guerrilla leader.)

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OCI 4899
17 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

The enemy made scattered probing attacks across the Eighth Army front. United Nations forces maintained positions and patrolled.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

FEAF flew 838 sorties, of which 460 were combat. No engagements with enemy planes were reported. The bomber command conducted shoran bombing of the Sinanju area.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

A Chinese Communist prisoner captured on 23 March from the 32nd Antitank Artillery Division reports that his political officer told him on 1 March that the UN planned to launch a four-division offensive against the Chinese Communist 12th Army in east central Korea. This reported UN offensive was to be met with a Communist counterattack supported by armor, artillery and reserve infantry elements. No actions were to be taken, however, if the UN offensive did not materialize.

The US IX Corps observes that this counterattack plan is of "particular interest" and may represent a "variation" of reported plans for a 6th Phase Offensive.

(While no ready explanation can yet be attached to the heightened military activity along the battle front in the enemy's immediate rear, this prisoner's statement provides a plausible explanation. The possibility remains, however, that the "counterattack" referred to could expand into a major attack, if in fact it ever occurs.)

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III. General Situation

Political

25X1C [REDACTED] prior to
9 April 21 ROK National Assemblymen broke with the Liberal Party in the National Assembly (nominally a pro-Rhee group, but currently estranged from the executive). This new voting faction is attempting to ally themselves with the Democratic Nationalists, Rhee's opposition. Reportedly they propose to submit a constitutional amendment calling for a "responsible cabinet" type of government similar to that of France. 25X1C [REDACTED] Rhee vetoed an identical amendment only recently and that Rhee would "dissolve the assembly and call for a national election if the amendment is made a political issue." (Political organizations in the South Korean legislature are characterized more as voting coalitions than political parties. While this rift in the Liberal Party, which nominally supports the government, has not been confirmed, it is entirely possible. This move will strengthen the voting power of the Democratic Nationalists.)

Meanwhile a British news service reports that on 16 April this constitutional amendment, intended to divest Rhee of political power, was introduced in the National Assembly. Observers in South Korea say that the amendment has the necessary two-thirds support of the Assembly needed for approval.

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OCI 4900
18 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Action across the front was highlighted by the repulsing of a company-strength enemy probe in the US I Corps zone, tank activity in the US IX Corps zone, and company-size attacks in the ROK II Corps zone, one of which was thrown back by ROK 6th Division counterattacks.

Navy

Air and surface units continued to intercept enemy supply lines along both coasts.

Air

UN aircraft flew 258 effective sorties, including 80 combat. The 16 medium bomber missions included an attack on the Sinhung-dong railroad bridge. A preliminary report indicates that one MIG was destroyed and two damaged in engagements between Sinanju and Sinuiju.

II. Military Intelligence

25X1C

Air

[REDACTED] 100 North Korean pilots arrived at Sariwon airfield in western Korea, south of Pyongyang, early in February. Allegedly the pilots were graduates of a Manchurian training center. It was rumored that by "middle April" some 30 unidentified aircraft would be at the field. At the time of the report -- 2 March -- only six aircraft were on the field. These were flown only at night by North Korean pilots. (It has long been suspected that the sod airfields in the Sariwon complex was one of the centers for enemy night harassing missions conducted by obsolescent PO-2 biplanes. In view of recent efforts to maintain two fields at Sariwon in operational condition, it is probable that some North Korean Air Force activity is located here.)

III. General Situation

Propaganda

A 17 April Chinese Communist radio broadcast reports that on 13 April a

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US F-86 Sabre jet was shot down by ground fire over a Sino-Korean border town on the Yalu River. The Communists allege that the downed aircraft, together with three others, intruded over Manchurian airspace. According to US news reports, the US Air Force admits the loss of an F-86 on that date. Air Force spokesmen say that the US jet was attacked over northwestern Korea by four MIG-15's.

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OCI 4901
19 April 1952

Flash
DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

A four-hour enemy attack of company strength was repulsed by the ROK Capitol Division in east central Korea. In the sector of the US 1st Marine Division, 1,281 rounds of artillery and mortar fire were reported. Elsewhere along the Eighth Army front, action was limited to probes and patrol clashes.

Navy

Air and surface units continued their strikes against enemy supply and communication points on both coasts.

Air

The Far East Air Force flew 1,243 sorties of which 796 were combat. Twelve medium bomber sorties were flown, seven directed against a rail by-pass bridge in the Sinanju area. A total of 118 airborne MIG's were observed; of 33 engaged, one was destroyed and three were damaged. One F-86 received minor damage.

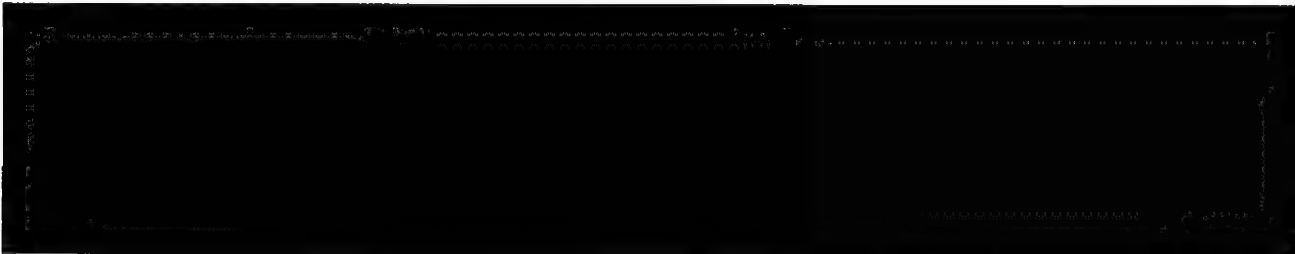
II. Military Intelligence

Ground

An enemy front-line propaganda broadcast, made in the east central sector, announced that a "general attack" would be launched before long.

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III. General Situation



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OCI 4902
21 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Small groups of the enemy made scattered probing attacks across the US Eighth Army front. UN forces maintained positions and patrolled.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

Within a two and one half hour period 63 F-86's had eight engagements with 105 MIG-15's and two Type-15's over northwest Korea. Nine MIG's were destroyed and eight MIG's and one Type-15 were damaged; no friendly losses were reported. FEAF planes flew a total of 915 sorties.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

On 20 April UN aerial observers noted three separate enemy groups, aggregating nearly a regiment, moving southwards into the Kaesong area. (Movement of large groups of troops into the battle area has previously signalled enemy preparations for more active military operations.)

The Far East Command reports the capture of additional Chinese prisoners from the 26th Army in central Korea who state that their army will be relieved in the near future. One prisoner stated that this relief had been scheduled three times previously, but plans had been upset by the UN. FECOM comments that this relief is as yet unsubstantiated, although the 26th has been in the line since June 1951. (Previous reports have indicated that the 60th Chinese Communist Army, farther to the west in reserve, would be the relieving force for the 26th. Again this can not be substantiated.)

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III. General Situation

Economic

According to two 20 April Korean-language broadcasts from radio Pyongyang, Premier Stalin offered "50,000 tons of flour stocked in Siberia" to Premier Kim Ilsong because "I have become cognizant of the fact that provisions are needed by the Korean people." Kim Ilsong accepted Stalin's offer, stating that this is "another manifestation of the disinterested brotherly aid given by the great Soviet people to the Korean people." (The public announcement of this considerable gift of food to the North Koreans by the USSR may be seen as another indication of the critical food shortage believed to exist among North Korean civilians. This offer will probably be given maximum propaganda coverage within North Korea.)

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OCI 4903
22 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

There were light patrol contacts and scattered enemy probes across the US Eighth Army front. UN forces maintained positions and patrolled.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

Revised figures for air engagements reported in the Daily Korean Bulletin of 21 April are seven MIG-15's destroyed, four damaged and one Type-15 damaged. One F-86 was lost. In an early morning reconnaissance flight of F-86's, one MIG-15 was destroyed. An F-86 received major damage when hit by debris from the destroyed MIG. Total Far East Air Force sorties were 1,126, including seven bomber command sorties against the Sinanju rail bridge and the Kyomipo steel mill.

II. Military Intelligence

25X1C

Ground

The Far East Command, on the basis of prisoner-of-war and [REDACTED] accepts the deactivation of the North Korean 17th Mechanized Division. FECOM believes that the personnel and armor of this division have been pro-rated to other units of the North Korean IV Corps in the western area near Pyongyang. (If this deactivation has taken place as FECOM believes, the armored elements of the North Korean army will be reduced to two divisions - the 105th Tank and the newly organized 10th Mechanized.)

In the afternoon of 21 April, a ROK ground observation post in the east central sector observed 200 mounted enemy troops together with 100 troops on foot. (This observation made in the sector of the Chinese Communist Twelfth Army, not known to have organic cavalry troops, raises again the question of whether the enemy will use cavalry in the Korean conflict. The last cavalry encounter occurred in late October 1950 when a US unit was surprised by mounted Chinese Communist troops in northwestern Korea. Two unidentified Chinese Communist cavalry units were long believed to be in Korea, but lack of contact or capture of prisoners caused FECOM to drop these units from the Communist order of battle.)

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III. General Situation

Political

On 19 April the South Korean National Assembly passed a resolution to amend a government organization law whereby, if a vacancy occurs in the Prime Ministership, a successor shall be appointed within ten days.

The American Embassy in Pusan reports that if this amendment becomes law, it will prevent President Rhee from naming an acting Prime Minister whose appointment, unlike that of a permanent Prime Minister, is not subject to Assembly concurrence. It is also stated by the Embassy that there is as yet no reliable indication of Rhee's intentions in regard to action on the above resolution or of a successor to ex-Prime Minister Chang.

Economic

Radio Pyongyang in a 21 April broadcast detailed how the 50,000 tons of flour presented to North Korea by the USSR were to be used. The gift will go without charge to farmers who suffered from the war or floods, to mitigate the agricultural taxes presently in arrears, and to continue the state loans to impoverished farmers. (The emphasis on relief of the North Korean agricultural population partially confirms the serious food shortages thought to exist among the North Korean civilian population.)

Propaganda

In a 21 April broadcast the Foreign Minister of North Korea refused the offer of assistance made by the UN's World Health Organization. Pak said "we have succeeded in preventing the spreading of epidemics," and added that the World Health Organization, after all, was a US puppet.

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OGI 4904
23 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Patrol action and scattered enemy probes up to two platoons in size were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

Far East Air Force planes flew 1,228 sorties, of which 683 were combat. Four Type-15's attacked four F-86's but no damage was reported for either side. The UN bomber command flew 10 sorties against the Sinanju rail by-pass.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

The US Navy reports the results of a ROK naval intelligence interrogation of a North Korean prisoner. The latter stated that political advisers of his division said the North Korean Army was preparing for an all-out offensive against the UN forces in May 1952. (Enemy prisoners have recently been reported as saying that an offensive was impending — previously a reliable indicator of Communist intentions when received in sufficient volume. Although there is evidence of considerable enemy movement and unusual activity in North Korea, the Far East Command does not believe a Communist offensive is imminent.)

Air

UN aerial observers report the sighting on 21 May of a 5,000 foot airstrip with 10 revetments in an area just north of Sariwon. (The Communists have been able to construct numerous sod airfields in North Korea only to have the UN detect and destroy them. To date, the only airfields south of the Yalu River complex that

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the enemy has made an effort to keep operational have been the sod fields at Sariwon. Obsolescent biplanes are believed to have flown from these fields in harassing missions against the UN rear areas.)

III. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4905
24 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered patrol contacts and light enemy probes were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 1,072 sorties, of which 730 were combat. One MIG was damaged in an early morning encounter over northwest Korea.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

The Far East Command reports that the capture of a Chinese soldier from the 15th Army in the sector of responsibility of the 26th Army in central Korea strengthens the indications that the 26th has been relieved. FECOM, however, is unable to say what unit comprises the relieving force. (Relief of the 26th Army has been indicated since early April. Although the 60th Army received primary mention as the relieving force, the 15th Army, as indicated by the prisoner, may actually have accomplished the relief.)

III. General Situation

Political

President Rhee has announced the nomination of Assembly Vice Speaker Chang Taek-sang for the vacant post of Prime Minister, according to Ambassador Muccio.

The Ambassador believes Chang is one of the very few men who may be acceptable to both Rhee and the Assembly.

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(Relations between Rhee and the Assembly are now so strained that the latter could conceivably indicate its lack of confidence in the President by rejecting the nomination.)

Economic

During the period of 14 March to 11 April prices in South Korea remained fairly constant, and for the first time since May 1950 there was a decrease in the amount of new currency. The commodities index in Pusan during the period decreased 3 percent while the retail rice price in Pusan and Seoul increased 3 percent and decreased 7 percent respectively.

According to Radio Pyongyang, the North Korean Government on 20 April released a cabinet decision which establishes rewards to be paid "for discoverers of mineral veins." The Government edict specified the types of ore which will bring recompense, including lead, wolfram, copper, gold, silver "and others." In addition to the reward money, the promulgation continues, the discoverer will be given "the privilege of purchasing daily necessities, clothing, and the like at the State-set prices." (Enemy documents indicate that a considerable amount of North Korean mine products was shipped to the Soviet Union before the war. Previous reports have indicated that only a small minority of North Korean civilians are fortunate enough to have access to scarce consumer goods at government-controlled prices, the vast majority having to spend from five to six times as much for their daily needs in the open market.)

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OCI 4906
25 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Small probing attacks and patrol engagements characterized the activity all across the US Eighth Army front, as elements of the US 40th Division in the US IX Corps zone repulsed two probes after a 25-minute struggle.

Navy

Air and surface craft continued to intercept enemy supply lines.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 999 sorties, 620 of them combat. There were 73 close-support missions divided among all five UN Corps zones. A total of 11 medium bomber sorties was flown, six against the Chongju railroad bridge complex and the Chinnampo marshalling yards. Twenty MIG's were observed, 14 encountered, with two probably destroyed and one damaged.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

UN aerial observers on 23 April sighted what appeared to be over 250 Communist-built tank traps in the general area of Kumsong in east central Korea. (UN forces in this sector have made a number of highly successful armored probes in the past, and these barriers may be directed against future UN local action.)

Air

UN fighter aircraft, directing naval gunfire at Wonsan, on 21 April detected and destroyed an enemy IL-10 conventional ground-attack aircraft on Wonsan airfield.

Far East Air Force notes that, although there were several single-engine planes on Wonsan field on 12 March, there were none on 8 April. (It is possible that the Communists are using some 2,800 feet of undamaged runway at the airfield to mount limited harassing sorties against UN installations or for limited night operations.)

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III. General Situation

Economic

A statement issued on 21 April by the North Korean Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry claimed that spring sowing for this year, despite "many difficulties caused by . . . the American imperialists and by the flood and drought of last year" is progressing faster than last year. The Ministry estimated that total areas planted showed 150.9 percent increase over last year, thus "vividly" showing "the heightened production desire of the farmers." (Despite the above "facts" cited by Pyongyang, the continued lack of farm equipment, personnel, draft animals and fertilizer presage a continued poor yield.)

Political

According to US observers Assembly Vice Speaker Chang Taek-san has organized a "middle ground" Assembly group, including 30 Assemblymen who signed a petition for the recent cabinet responsibility amendment and 13 who did not sign. The group supports the amendment but professes to believe the measure needs "further study." The organization of this group probably has Rhee's covert backing in an effort to confuse the amendment issue. Rhee's recent nomination of Chang to the Prime Ministership may have been a reward for Chang's action in the Assembly which possibly weakened the unity of anti-Rhee elements.

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OCI 4907
26 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Enemy ground activity was limited to small probes in the west and east-central sectors.

Navy

Task Force 77 on the east coast replenished and conducted no air operations. West coast carriers and surface units on both coasts attacked enemy supply routes.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 663 sorties, of which 378 were combat. One MIG was damaged in an engagement just north of the Chongchon River.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Truce Talks

Radio Peiping on 25 April warned the United States that it will be "heavily punished by the people of Korea, China, and the rest of the world" unless Korean and Chinese POW's "demands" to return home are met. The broadcast recalls the Kojé riots and previous propaganda broadcasts as evidence of US brutality against Communist prisoners.

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Political

Yesterday municipal, town and township elections were held in South Korea and an estimated seven million voters were expected to elect representatives for 17,559 seats. Prior to the elections, President Rhee cautioned the ROK voters about electing "candidates who are spending much money" in their campaigns, as they "will undoubtedly try to recoup their outlay at the expense of the public." The ROK President also warned that "professional politicians," if elected, would expand their powers but that women candidates should not be discriminated against.

Propaganda

A North Korean propaganda broadcast of 24 April charged the US with using poison gas shells against Communist troops 33 times between 27 February and 9 April.

Radio Pyongyang warned the people of North Korea on 25 April that as a result of alleged US germ warfare in the past, an "outbreak of vicious epidemics" is possible in the near future.

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OCI 4908
28 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Patrol contacts and scattered enemy probes were reported across the Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supply points and communications on both coasts.

Air

FEAF planes flew 1,028 sorties, of which 657 were combat. Of the 20 airborne MIG-15's observed, ten were encountered but no damage was inflicted on either side. Ten medium bomber sorties were directed against the Huichon rail bridge.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

ROK Foreign Minister Pyon on 25 April issued a statement claiming that Japan has "unilaterally" broken off the current Korean-Japanese negotiations. The South Korean official charged that the Japanese negotiators' continuing claims to private property in Korea — a major issue in deadlocking the talks — was the factor causing discontinuance. Pyon added, however, that "we have not given up hope for introspection and reconsideration on the part of Japan." (Japan has proposed, possibly as a bargaining maneuver, that the talks be broken off. There is no confirmation, however, that the talks actually have been suspended.)

Truce Talks

In a propaganda broadcast on 26 April, Radio Peiping charged the US with

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"destroying the basis of negotiations in the executive sessions" by "holding back large numbers of Korean and Chinese prisoners." Peiping quoted a Communist negotiator to the effect that "we are still willing to continue to negotiate a settlement in the hope of achieving an armistice." The "sole reasonable basis for solution to the PW problem" was said to lie in the earlier demand that between 116,000-132,000 Communist prisoners be returned.

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OCI 4909
29 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Patrol clashes and scattered light enemy probes were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

Limited by weather, Far East Air Force planes flew only 205 sorties, of which 84 were combat. No sightings of enemy aircraft were reported.

II. Military Intelligence

Navy

A North Korean, captured off northeastern Korea and interrogated by the US Navy, stated that the ammunition supply at one coastal artillery installation was 40 rounds per gun. He added that the unit was under orders to conserve ammunition for "anti-invasion use" and had refused daily requests to fire on UN naval vessels in the area. (While fragmentary, this statement indicates the continued fear of another successful UN amphibious operation.)

III. General Situation

Economic

The American special economic mission to South Korea met on 24 April with the ROK Finance and Foreign Ministers to present the US position on the settlement of "won" advances to US forces. Clarence E. Meyer, chief of the US mission, stated that current arrangements for won advances and aid supplies "will provide ample financial means to cope with the inflation." (The South Koreans have placed most of the blame for inflation on the UN's failure to make current payments for the won as it is used.)

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OCI 4910
30 April 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered light enemy probes were encountered across the US Eighth Army front. UN forces maintained positions and patrolled.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

Aircraft of the Far East Air Force, hampered by overcast along the northwest coast, flew 451 sorties, of which 202 were combat. No sightings of enemy aircraft were reported.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4911
1 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The US Eighth Army reported scattered patrol contacts and three enemy probes of platoon size.

Navy

Surface units bombarded coastal communication and supply points. Reports of naval air units were not received.

Air

A total of 112 enemy jets was observed in northwest Korea, of which 51 were encountered in eight engagements by F-86's, F-80's, and F9F's. Six MIG-15's were destroyed and three MIG's and two Type-15's were damaged. One F-80 was lost and an F-86 and F9F received major damage. FEAF aircraft flew a total of 922 sorties, of which 545 were combat.

II. Military Intelligence

Manpower

Recent prisoner of war interrogations indicate that many ex-ROK soldiers, upon completion of Communist training and indoctrination, are again being assigned to frontline Communist units. For East Command believes that this may be attributed to the critical shortage of trained manpower in the North Korean Army.

III. General Situation

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

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OCI 4912
2 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered light enemy probes were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

Planes of the Far East Air Force flew 1,292 sorties, of which 820 were combat. In counter air action, 12 MIG-15's were engaged and one was damaged. Friendly aircraft suffered no casualties.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

In the afternoon of 30 April, four US F-86 jet pilots, flying at 30,000 feet along the Yalu River, observed an estimated 500 enemy aircraft on airfields in the Yalu River complex. The Communist aircraft reportedly occupied all major revetment and taxiway space, with 100 at Takushan, 150 at Tatungkuo, and 250 at Antung. Visibility during the ten-minute sighting was reportedly good and the US lead pilot used binoculars.

The Far East Air Force, while noting that such a concentration is possible, believes that the sighting might have been too high by as much as 100 planes. FEAF carries 350 Communist MIG-15's as based on airfields in the Yalu River complex.

III. General Situation

Foreign Relations

The coming into force of the Japanese peace treaty has evoked "apprehensive comment" in South Korean newspapers the past week; most editorials have stated that

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Japan is not yet democratic and is still fundamentally imperialistic. The press has also "warned" Japan not to try to recover its former position in Asia. It hopes that instead Japan will play an assigned role in rearming for defense against communism.

Political

President Rhee's campaign to discredit his opposition in the ROK National Assembly received an unexpected boost on 24 April when So Minhe, a leading member of the opposition, shot and killed a ROK Army captain in a fracas. American observers note that varying accounts of the incident are receiving wide circulation and that Rhee may seize on the case as an illustration of his thesis that Assemblymen are a "little group of willful men who consider themselves above the law."

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OCI 4913
3 May 1952

D A I L Y K O R E A N B U L L E T I N

I. Military Operations

Army

There were scattered patrol clashes all along the front and four minor probes in the US X and ROK I and II Corps zones, but the enemy forces withdrew in each case.

Navy

Air and surface craft bombarded enemy supply and communications facilities. Three F-9F's were lost, with two of the pilots recovered and the third presumed killed in action.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 869 sorties of which 472 were combat. There were 13 medium bomber missions, nine against the Kogunyang-dong railroad bridge. Eight MIG-15's were observed and all were engaged, with claims of one probably destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

According to a 30 April radio broadcast from Pyongyang, a delegation from the Mongolian People arrived in North Korea on 28 April. The Mongols reportedly brought 24 carloads of "May Day gifts" to the North Korean people. (This is the second delegation from Mongolia to visit North Korea in 1952. A previous group arrived in late December 1951 and toured North Korea during January 1952.)

Economic

The US Army Attache in Korea reports that famine conditions exist in certain northern areas of the ROK province of North Kyongsang. This situation,

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caused by last fall's crop failure in the effected area, has not as yet been remedied by increasing the UN Civil Assistance Command and other welfare efforts.

The total number of registered refugees in South Korea numbered as of 15 April 10,464,491, according to the ROK Social Affairs Ministry, or about half the population of South Korea. Of this number, over 618 thousand are refugees from North Korea. Those who are suffering from "living difficulties" total 4,367,472.

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CCI 4914
5 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered light enemy probes and patrol clashes were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

In six encounters, FEAF aircraft destroyed four MIG-15's, one YAK-3, and one IL-2, and probably destroyed another MIG-15. Friendly aircraft suffered no damage. Total FEAF sorties were 715, of which 458 were combat.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 48 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

The ROK Government on 30 April vetoed a National Assembly Bill providing for legal guarantees against political intimidation on the grounds that the "sweeping" provisions of the bill would foster subversive activities and would make the maintenance of law and order difficult. At the same time, a provision in another law calling for the President to fill any vacancy in the Prime Minister's post within ten days was rejected by the executive.

US observers in Korea comment that these actions by Rhee can only further increase friction between the executive and the legislature. Regardless of whether the Assembly overrides these vetoes, the legislature has made its point that Rhee is not protecting the political freedoms guaranteed in the constitution and does not intend to abandon his practice of appointing "acting" Prime Ministers, thus avoiding Assembly approval.

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OOI 4915
6 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Ground action was characterized by light enemy probes and minor patrol clashes.

Navy

Air and surface craft bombarded enemy supply and communications facilities.

Air

Six MIG-15's were encountered by three F-86's and one MIG was damaged. Aircraft of the Far East Air Force flew 1,160 sorties, 751 of them combat. The 13 medium bomber missions included an attack by eight aircraft on the Huichon railroad bridge.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command is decreasing the estimated daily non-battle casualty rate of the enemy as of 6 May to one casualty per 3,000 troops, because of the armistice negotiations and the resultant relatively static situation. As the enemy has had an opportunity to supply troops with more suitable clothing, heated bunkers, and larger amounts of food and entertainment to discourage desertions, the former ratio of one casualty to 1,000 troops is now "unrealistic." Intelligence sources, prisoner-of-war reports and captured enemy documents justify this latest computation, according to FECOM, and indicate that the enemy forces are entirely capable of replacing the number of non-battle casualties suffered each month.

Air

On 5 May in the late afternoon American F-86 pilots sighted 315 swept-wing aircraft on the three Communist airfields in the Yalu River complex. (The Far East Air Force has estimated that up to 350 MIG-15's are based on these fields.)

III. General Situation

Political

Radio Pusan announced today that the ROK National Assembly has approved the appointment of Chang Tak-sang as Prime Minister by a 95 to 81 vote. (Chang, one of the few men acceptable to both the Assembly and Rhee is, according to US Ambassador Muccio, an intelligent, ambitious opportunist.

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OCI 6000
7 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Scattered enemy platoon-size probes and patrol contacts were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

Air and surface units attacked enemy coastal routes.

Air

Aircraft of the Far East Air Force flew 1,238 sorties, of which 848 were combat. Two MIG-15's were encountered with no damage to either side.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

From 1 July 1951 to the present, the Communists have lost 319 aircraft in combat, according to a Far East Command estimate. Another 49 were probably destroyed and 444 were damaged. Communist non-combat losses are estimated at 69 aircraft wrecked and 47 seriously damaged. The great bulk of these losses have occurred among jet fighters.

III. General Situation

Economic

The destruction of irrigation facilities and the devastation of forests are two major problems confronting the North Koreans, according to a Radio Pyongyang broadcast of 3 May. In view of the depleted forests, the broadcast stated, committees for floods and wind damage must be organized and "tree-planting must be launched throughout the country." As for irrigation, the Communist regime urges the farmers to secure and repair water pumps and other irrigation equipment and "replace all motors operated by oil with those operated by charcoal." (Reportedly, the only well-irrigated paddies in North Korea are in the Chaeryong basin southwest of Pyongyang, the other cultivated areas being dependent solely on the summer rainy season. The curtailment of oil points up the civilian shortage of this commodity; the bulk of POL supplies goes to the armed forces.)

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OCI 6001
8 May 1952

D A I L Y K O R E A N B U L L E T I N

I. Military Operations

Army

Patrol clashes and enemy probes up to company strength were reported across the US Eighth Army front.

Navy

The US Destroyer OWENS received six hits from enemy shore batteries at Songjin. The ship reported six personnel casualties and considerable damage.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 983 sorties, of which 646 were combat. Four Australian Meteors engaged two MIG-15's south of Pyongyang and claimed one MIG destroyed. An Australian Meteor received minor damage. Two Navy Banshees engaged eight MIG's at an unreported location with no damage to either side.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Economic

In the special meeting of the UN economic mission with ROK ministers on 3 May, South Korean Finance Minister Paek stalemated the negotiations by stating that South Korea "must control" foreign exchange accruing from the recently-concluded US-ROK tungsten agreement. (The tungsten contract was formally signed some weeks ago. It expressly stipulated that the resulting foreign exchange was subject to US control. The draft of the current economic negotiations, however, provides that -- subsequent to the effective date of the draft -- any future foreign exchange accruing from ROK exports will be controlled solely by Korea.)

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OCI 6002
9 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

There were several small enemy probes, particularly in the US I Corps zone in the west, where the enemy again evidenced sensitivity to UN observation.

Navy

Air and surface craft attacked enemy communications on both coasts; one Corsair was lost.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 1,240 sorties including 871 combat. Nineteen medium bombers attacked targets which included Kwaksan railroad bridge and Sariwon airfield. Of 28 MIG-15's observed 19 were engaged, with claims of two destroyed and one damaged against one Australian Meteor damaged.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Economic

The US Army Attache in Korea reports that as of 7 May the retail price of rice was 100,000 won for 20 litres. No immediate end of the price rise seems to be in sight, according to the report.

Cease-fire

US military observers in Korea report that officers of the ROK Army generally feel that the war should be actively continued.

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OCI 6003
10 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The enemy made scattered probing attacks up to company strength along the Eighth Army front. A friendly tank patrol met with battalion strength resistance and artillery and anti-tank fire in the western sector.

Navy

Air and surface units raided enemy supplies and communications on both coasts.

Air

FEAF aircraft flew 797 sorties, of which 480 were combat. Of 28 enemy aircraft observed, eight were encountered. One MIG-15 was damaged.

II. Military Intelligence

Armor

The Far East Command, in its latest estimate of Communist armored strength in Korea, reports that while the table of equipment of enemy units in Korea calls for a total of 443 tanks and 160 self-propelled artillery pieces, the enemy now has only 384 tanks and 134 self-propelled guns.

The bulk of this armor is to be found in a North Korean tank division, a mechanized division, four mechanized artillery brigades, and in organic North Korean corps artillery. The Chinese Communists have 160 tanks and 16 self-propelled guns in their two armored divisions.

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III. General Situation

Political

The National Assembly on 8 May elected Kim Don-song, an anti-Rhee member of the Assembly Liberal Party, as Vice Chairman to fill the vacancy left by the new Prime Minister. The election of Kim demonstrates the continuing strength of the anti-Rhee forces in the Assembly.

The ROK, according to the US Embassy, still insists that further Japanese-South Korean negotiations are futile as long as the Japanese persist in their property claims in Korea. The South Korean Government is reportedly planning an intensive propaganda campaign for June denouncing Japanese claims.



25X6

25X6

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OCI 6004
12 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

Enemy night probes against ROK forces on the western and central fronts and scattered patrol activity marked the ground action on 11 May.

Navy

UN naval air and surface units bombarded communications and supplies on the east and west coasts.

Air

UN aircraft flew 1168 sorties of which 700 were combat. Of the enemy planes encountered, four MIG-15's were reported damaged.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 48 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

South Korean press and official reaction to the recent UN Command "package" proposal was one of grateful and fervent support for the United Nations stand on prisoners of war, although the attitude on the airfield issue is viewed as a major threat to ROK security.

Almost complete silence on the part of ROK officialdom followed Rhee's 14 April statement opposing any armistice which failed to insure the unification of Korea. Ambassador Muccio comments that this is in notable contrast to earlier vigorous denunciations by officials, newspapers and contrived mass meetings which reached a peak of intensity last December.

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OGI 6005
13 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Minor probes by small enemy groups across the front again characterized the day's ground action. Heavy enemy mortar fire was received by UN forces in the west, while in the east the Communists continued to make front-line propaganda broadcasts.

Navy

UN naval air and surface units continued to harass enemy lines of communications and supply and troop installations on both the east and west coasts.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 1,031 sorties including 664 combat. Medium bombers attacked an important railway bridge in northwestern Korea. Twenty-two MIG-15's were observed or encountered during the period with no damage suffered by either side.

II. Military Intelligence

Navy

ROK naval interrogation of recently captured North Korean prisoners reveals that 5 boat builders north of Songjin in northeastern Korea have been busy since mid-March building wooden boats to be used in another attempt to capture the UN-held island of Yang-do. (A determined effort by the North Koreans on 20 February to capture Yang-do ended in disaster for the enemy unit. Yang-do is the northernmost UN-held island [REDACTED])

25X6

Air

UN F-86 pilots, on patrol along the Yalu River on 12 May, observed 360 swept wing aircraft on Tatungkou and Antung airfields between 1000 and 1100 hours.

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III. General Situation

Political

Radio Pyongyang broadcast on 8 May that a new guerrilla organization, known as the "Country-saving Fighting League," has been formed in South Korea to include "patriots in all walks of life against the American and Japanese imperialists and national traitors."

The same broadcast, attempting to play upon traditional Korean hatred for Japan, describes the entry of 10,000 Japanese police reserves into the Korean war as a part of a scheme to prepare a South Korean-Japanese military alliance.

Propaganda

Radio Pyongyang on 7 May again accused the UN of using poison gas shells on 22 and 25 April.

In the combat area, enemy front-line propaganda loudspeaker broadcasts on 11 May stated that "the Chinese Communist and the North Korean Army will launch a 6th Phase Offensive if the peace talks fail." On the east coast, ROK units on 11 May received leaflet-bearing mortar fire. The leaflets stated that "200 Japanese officers were dispatched to Korea by order of the National Defense of the UN," a theme also noted in a previous Radio Pyongyang broadcast.

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OCI 6005
14 May 1952

D A I L Y K O R E A N B U L L E T I N

I. Military Operations

Army

The enemy demonstrated his sensitivity in western Korea by attempting to eliminate certain UN ground observation posts. On the central front a UN tank-infantry patrol was heavily engaged for an hour by an enemy unit employing recoilless rifle and mortar fire.

Navy

UN naval air and surface units attacked enemy lines of communications and industrial installations on the North Korean east and west coasts.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 1,244 sorties, of which 801 were combat. Medium bombers attacked an enemy bridge in northeastern Korea, while UN jet fighters observed or encountered 116 MIG-15's in northwestern Korea. Five of the enemy jets were destroyed with only one UN F-86 damaged.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The North Korean "divisions" frequently reported training in Manchuria arrived in North Korea on 25 April.

25X1C

25X1C

Chinese Communist staff officers requested that the newly arrived divisions be assigned to the front to support Chinese Communist troops, but the North Koreans intend to use the new units as the nuclei for "three additional North Korean corps." (The current training of North Korean troops in Manchuria has been consistently reported from different sources, but no firm confirmation has ever been received. Although there is no evidence to support the arrival of these new units in Korea, it is entirely possible that replacements and perhaps specialized Korean units, armor or artillery, have been training in Manchuria and that they began entering Korea in April.)

Air

On 11 May a US naval patrol plane was attacked by MIG's in the Korean Bay about 90 miles from Dairen and the same distance from the Shantung coast.

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No serious damage was reported. (This interception is a further indication of the effectiveness of the Communists' early warning and air defense system in areas near Dairen and the Shantung coast.)

III. General Situation

25X1C

Economic

25X1C

25X1C

[REDACTED] on 25 April 1952 the North Korean Government was "obliged" to ship undamaged plant equipment from industrial installations in Hamhung, Songjin and Kyomipo in payment for Soviet equipment. During the period February to April, [REDACTED] shipments from the USSR to North Korea, presumably of war materiel, were not regular. (During the cease-fire negotiations the North Korean Army has been able to effect a considerable rehabilitation of its combat units, including the addition of both heavy and light equipment. While the methods of payment for this materiel have never been disclosed, it is conceivable that the export of undamaged Korean industrial equipment would be one means of reimbursing the USSR for equipment used in the conduct of war.)

The US Economic Mission conveyed a four-point proposal to ROK officials on 12 May in an attempt to reach agreement on various economic issues. The proposal stipulates leaving the won-dollar conversion rate at 6,000 to 1, paying up all back drawings for the US soldiers' pocket money, paying \$3 million per month as partial settlement of UN won drawings, and arriving at "specific figures" for won drawings for the period commencing 1 January 1952.

Finance Minister Paek, after reckoning the total sum to be available to South Korea, commented that it was "not much money."

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OCI 6007
15 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

The enemy in western Korea again vigorously resisted attempts by the UN's 1st ROK Division to maintain an observation post at Kigong. In the central sector, a number of company-size Communist attacks made limited gains.

Navy

UN naval air and surface craft maintained the blockade on both coasts of North Korea and attacked Communist supply line targets.

Air

UN land based aircraft flew 599 combat sorties out of the total of 1,100 flown during the period; medium bombers attacked a railroad bridge and industrial installations in coastal eastern Korea. UN F-86's encountered or sighted 30 MIG-15's. Three of the enemy planes were downed compared to a friendly loss of one F-86.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

UN air observers on 13 April observed some 200 square miles of gray smoke covering the Hoeyang area in eastern Korea about 30 miles south of Wonsan. (The enemy, in the past, has sought to conceal major daylight troop movement by the use of such smoke. However, the possibility of forest fires cannot be ruled out.)

III. General Situation

Economic

Chinese troops, according to a recent North Korean broadcast, are extending aid to Korean farmers by "helping them plow and sow as well as in irrigation projects." In addition Pyongyang stated that millet and rice have been given to

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the peasants by the Chinese. (The paucity of experienced farm labor -- the major factor accounting for poor crop yields -- has necessitated the use of Chinese as well as North Korean static military units for agricultural pursuits. Recent gifts of flour and grain from the USSR and China point up the severe North Korean civilian food shortage.)

Propaganda

Radio Peiping charged on 14 May that "American Military aircraft" violated the Kaesong neutral zone early that day between 0240 and 0335. The broadcast claimed that "many" flares were dropped and the zone machine-gunned.

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OCI 6008
16 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Unsuccessful enemy probing efforts of platoon and company strength highlighted action across the front. The enemy repulsed friendly patrols in the central sector.

Navy

Naval air and surface units continued blockading the east and west coasts and bombarded shore installations.

Air

UN aircraft flew 1,226 sorties of which 815 were combat. Of the 29 MIG-15's encountered, three were destroyed. One UN F-86 was lost.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command, after detailed analysis of enemy documents and prisoner of war statements, accepts the presence of an organic artillery regiment with each Chinese Communist army and an organic artillery battalion with each division in Korea. In both the IX and XX Army Groups, however, an artillery regiment of two artillery battalions and an antiaircraft automatic weapons battalion is organic to each division. FECOM concludes that the ultimate goal of the Chinese Communists is to have an artillery regiment organic to each infantry division. (There is no indication that this revision of organic Chinese Communist artillery strength will result in a further upward estimate in the number of artillery pieces available to the enemy in Korea.)

Air

UN F-86 pilots observed 280 swept-wing aircraft on Antung, Tatung-kou and Takushan airfields in the early morning of 15 May. Later, in the afternoon, 250 aircraft were observed on Tatung-kou airfield alone.

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III. General Situation

Political

"Bureaucratic tendencies among officials, corruption and embezzlement," residues of Japanese suzerainty, are still to be seen in North Korea, according to a 13 May broadcast from Pyongyang. An indoctrination campaign is, therefore, to be "launched vigorously," using every available means for political education and cultural training of the working masses. Those who embezzle, fail to abide by discipline, waste State property and are tardy in reporting for duty will be dealt with "mercilessly." (The North Korean Government earlier this week announced the formulation of a State Inspection Committee, presumably to tighten up the regime's control. The new committee will inspect and control activities in government installations as well as private enterprises.)

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OCI 6009

17 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

Scattered minor enemy probes and patrol contacts occurred along the front during the past 24 hours. The US 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment was relieved from its Japan assignment and began movement to the UN 2nd Logistical Command, which is also charged with the security of the prisoner of war compounds.

Navy

UN naval air and surface craft harassed enemy lines of communications and supply installations.

Air

Land-based aircraft under Far East Air Force control flew 1,067 sorties, 644 of which were combat. Medium bombers attacked an important railway bridge in north-western Korea. Although no MIG-15's were encountered, UN F-86's patrolling in the Yalu River area observed the constant movement of aircraft from and to Communist airfields in Manchuria. At one time 205 swept-wing aircraft were on the three fields near Antung.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

25X1C

25X1C

The North Korean Army on 27 April had 450 "tanks," most of them in the 105th Tank and 10th Mechanized Divisions in western and west-central Korea, [REDACTED] These tanks are reportedly in addition to those issued under the Sino-Soviet agreement on supply and equipment for the Korean War. [REDACTED]

25X1C

25X1C

[REDACTED] "mass shipments of machinery and scrap" from North Korea have been made to the USSR to pay for these tanks. (FECOM has estimated that the enemy, including the Chinese, have only 384 tanks in North Korea, although their armored tables of organization provide for 443 tanks. How the North Koreans and the Chinese receive and pay for equipment from the USSR is unknown.)

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III. General Situation

Cease-fire

An American Red Cross representative now in Korea reports that ROK personnel detailed for handling the anticipated exchange of prisoners of war are of "high" calibre. The US Embassy comments that the above report may be indicative of future ROK tactics towards the armistice, that is, of cooperation on an operating level while the government remains aloof.

Political

Sin Hungu, former South Korean diplomatic representative in Tokyo, on 13 May announced his candidacy for president of the ROK in the June elections. (Sin, better known as Hugh Cynn, is a controversial figure and a former long-time intimate of Rhee; he broke with the President in 1950. Reportedly a collaborator with the Japanese, he became wealthy after World War II as a contractor. Whether or not his candidacy has Rhee's approval is not known. However, he has had and may still have close connections with and support from leading native Protestant churchmen, from the Yun Chiyong clique which surrounds Rhee, and from the Hung Sa Dan, a secret brotherhood organized 30 years ago and reputedly very powerful.)

Propaganda

A Radio Peiping broadcast of 16 May emphasized the theme that "the latest scheme of the American aggressors for wrecking the Korean armistice negotiations" is their refusal to listen to reason at the conference table "while creating threatening provocations outside the conference tent."

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OCI 6010
19 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

An attack by the enemy in company strength against an ROK outpost in western Korea was the heaviest action of the period. In the east, ROK units were probed by North Korean platoon-size groups.

Navy

UN naval air and sea elements attacked enemy supply lines, troop installations and defensive positions on the Korean east and west coasts.

Air

UN aircraft under Far East Air Force control flew 860 effective sorties, 435 of which were combat. No medium bomber missions were flown and only 7 MIG-15's were sighted or encountered. One F-86 was lost.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 48 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

The US Embassy in Pusan reports that the only South Korean newspaper comment on the General Dodd incident appeared in Seoul Shinmun which stated that the UN invited the "insult" by over-indulgent treatment. The newspaper added that the "gentlemanly attitude" of the UN will only encourage further Communist aggression.

On 14 May the ROK Government submitted to the National Assembly a "new" proposal to amend the constitution in a manner similar to the government-sponsored bill of last January. The proposal calls for popular election of the president and vice-president, a bi-cameral legislature, and confirmation of the President's Cabinet appointees by the Lower House. Ambassador Muccio suggests that the new

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plan may be intended to counter the Assembly's suggestion of 7 May calling for a Cabinet responsible to the National Assembly. The conflicting bills will undoubtedly be the principal political issue during the next month. (Proposals for the popular election of the president and vice-president as well as a bicameral legislature are strongly opposed by the Assembly.)

Economic

The ROK, according to the US Embassy in Pusan, plans to import 24,000 metric tons of rice from Thailand and 13,000 metric tons from Taiwan in the near future. This rice, none of which has arrived yet, is part of the 60,000 metric tons proposed import for which South Korea received US concurrence in the allocation of ROK foreign exchange.

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OCI 6011
20 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

UN patrols at several points made contact with scattered enemy patrols of platoon size probing across the entire front. All friendly divisions maintained their positions.

Navy

UN naval air and surface craft continued to maintain a blockade of both coasts, and attacked Communist supply lines.

Air

UN air activity was light. Of 621 sorties flown, 326 were combat. UN bombers attacked a road and railroad bridge south of Sunchon in northwest Korea.

II. Military Intelligence

Naval

Interrogation of North Korean prisoners taken in the Wonsan area reveals that the enemy is planning to attack Yodo (Island) in Wonsan harbor. Reportedly 80 sampans, each able to carry 80 men, are in the Hodopando area north of Yodo and currently engaged in fishing. These vessels will mass at an undetermined location for loading immediately prior to the planned attack on Yodo. (The enemy managed to make a successful surprise raid on one of the UN-held islands in Wonsan bay late in 1951. The latest Communist east coast amphibious venture was the 20 February attack on Yangdo off Songjin which ended in defeat. Current indications point to a future enemy attempt to capture both Yodo and Yangdo.)

III. General Situation

Propaganda

Press reports of 20 May state that one Communist prisoner of war was killed and 85 wounded in a new clash between POWs and the United Nations troops guarding

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them. The latest riot occurred in a Pusan camp and broke out over resistance to medical attention being given the prisoners. One American guard was slightly hurt. (Previous press accounts have given the impression that fanatic Communist prisoners were confined to Kojé Island and that anti-Communist prisoners had been removed to the Pusan area.)

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OCI 6012
21 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

Minor probes and clashes of squad and platoon strength characterized action across the front. All UN divisions maintained their positions.

Navy

UN naval aircraft and surface vessels maintained the blockade of both North Korean coasts. Air action on the east coast was limited by the weather.

Air

UN aircraft flew 975 sorties including 601 combat missions. Of a total of 38 MIG-15s observed, 30 were encountered. Eight MIGs were reported destroyed while two F-86s were lost.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the last 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

The US Embassy reports that between 1,000 and 1,500 persons attended a carefully prepared mass meeting in Pusan on 19 May sponsored by various "anomalous patriotic organizations" presumably associated with Rhee's Liberal Party. Following speeches denouncing Assembly member So Minho (who, allegedly in self-defense, killed a South Korean army officer) and "Assembly men who oppose the people's will," the crowd marched to the capitol grounds where the Assembly was in session. Heavily armed police, however, prevented any violence.

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OCI 6013
22 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Two probing attacks by the enemy on the central and eastern fronts were repulsed by UN forces.

Navy

Naval surface units on the east coast bombarded targets in a railroad and harbor area at Chaho. Results were unobserved. Naval air units attacked enemy supply lines near the west coast.

Air

UN aircraft flew 1,054 effective sorties, 631 of which were combat. Bombers attacked Sinhung-Dong, but no significant fighter action was reported.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the last 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Economic

A recent North Korean cabinet decision, according to Radio Pyongyang, calls for the loan of food to 6,000 farmers in the Kaesong area who are "suffering from disaster." Approximately 218,700 pounds of grain and 820 gallons of seed grains have been given to the "afflicted farmers in the liberated area," it is reported. (Intelligence reports indicate that the Kaesong area has suffered acutely from food shortages, due primarily to a shortage of experienced farm laborers.)

Propaganda

In a 17 May broadcast, radio Pyongyang noted "partial defects" in the anti-epidemic campaign being waged in North Korea against the "germ atrocities of the enemy." The coming of summer, the broadcast notes, will intensify such faults as

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issuance of certificates of disinfection at random and failure to boil water and to sweep out dwellings. The listeners are exhorted that "hatred of the enemy scheme (BW campaign) should be aroused." (A third summer under conditions of modern war will make hard-hit North Korea particularly vulnerable to summer diseases such as typhoid and cholera.)

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OCI 6014
23 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Company and platoon size probes against ROK units in the west highlighted enemy action. On the rest of the front only scattered probes and patrol clashes occurred.

Navy

US naval surface units maintained the blockade of both North Korean coasts. Air units continued to interdict enemy supply installations.

Air

UN aircraft flew 1,120 sorties including 758 combat, but no significant fighter action was reported. Ten bombers attacked railroad installations north of Sunchon.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command reported on 22 May that as of 17 May the North Korean and Chinese Communist armies in Korea had suffered 1,608,988 casualties. These include 480,170 killed, 995,186 wounded and non-battle casualties, and 133,632 prisoners of war.

III. General Situation

Political

25X1C

[REDACTED] anti-legislative riots, similar to the 19 May riot against Assemblyman So Minho were scheduled for 23 May by the ROK government. It is believed that Ho Chong and O Wi-yong, prominent anti-Rhee assemblymen, will be singled out for "assassination." (No riots are reported to have occurred on 23 May. It is possible, however, that President Rhee gave at least tacit consent to the 19 May riot and will be informed of future anti-Assembly disturbances before they occur.)

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Propaganda

Radio Peiping maintained its standard attack against the UN's prisoner-of-war stand in two 22 May broadcasts, but also devoted considerable time to personal attacks on Admiral Joy. One broadcast predicted that "Harrison, the two-star general who stepped into Joy's shoes today, may yet write one of the darkest chapters of the armistice negotiations."

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OCI 6015
24 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

An enemy platoon-sized probe four miles southeast of Yuusil, which was repulsed by elements of the 8th ROK Division, high lighted action across the front. Elsewhere scattered patrol skirmishes were reported.

Navy

UN naval air sorties totaled 246. Surface units continued to blockade and bombard both the east and west coasts.

Air

During the period, UN aircraft flew 1012 sorties, of which 650 were combat. No enemy fighters were encountered.

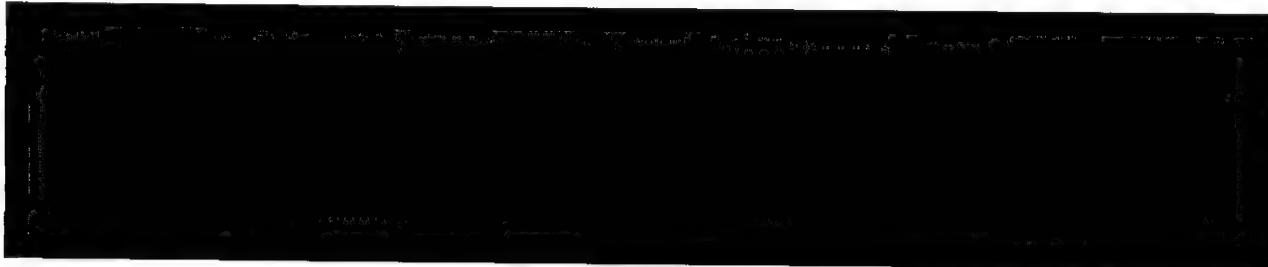
II. Military Intelligence

Ground

The Far East Command reported on 23 May that the 60th Chinese Communist Army appears to have made a southeasterly deployment to positions in the rear of the 15th Chinese Communist Army. The 60th was formerly located northeast of Singye, in western Korea. (The proximity of the 60th to the battle line of the 15th suggests that another relief may soon take place. It is to be noted, however, that until the relief occurs, a strong offensive potential will exist in the central sector near Pyonggang.)

25X6

III. General Situation



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Economic

The index of all retail commodity prices in Pusan rose only two percent during the week ending 10 May, according to US observers in Korea. The retail price of rice, however, rose ten percent during the period making a total rise of 186 percent since 1 January. (Increased supplies of consumer goods for resale and frequent ROK governmental measures have been largely ineffectual in controlling the rice price, which in turn influences all other retail prices. The scarcity of rice supplies is the main factor causing the price increase; this is compounded by hoarding, black market activities, and inadequate facilities for distribution.)

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OCI 6016
26 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

An estimated two companies of enemy troops, supported by a 35-minute artillery barrage, attacked UN positions in the vicinity of Mabang on the western front. US units maintained their positions. Elsewhere only minor patrol actions were reported.

Navy

US naval surface vessels maintained the blockade of both North Korean coasts. Surface units bombarded targets in the Wonsan area. Naval aircraft continued to interdict enemy supply installations.

Air

UN aircraft flew 1108 sorties including 673 combat missions. During the period 37 MIG-15s were engaged by US 5th Air Force fighters. Four MIG-15s were destroyed while one was damaged. No friendly airplanes were destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

Guerrilla Activity

On 24 May the ROK Defense Minister announced that emergency martial law will be re-instituted in various areas of North and South Cholla and South Kyongsang provinces. Martial law had been previously lifted to create and maintain a free atmosphere during the recent local elections. The South Korean official stated, however, that "the Communist remnants, taking advantage of the withdrawal of martial law, are active in some areas." (Since the termination of Operation Ratkiller on 14 March, there have been indications that the Communists are attempting to rebuild their guerrilla forces in South Korea.)

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III. General Situation

Political

Radio Pusan announced on 24 May that Yi Bumsuk has been appointed Minister of Home Affairs succeeding "Montana" Chang Sukyun, who was "released from his duties at his own request." (Rhee had reportedly become provoked over Chang's actions in unduly antagonizing members of the National Assembly. Yi, a member of the "palace guard" and vice-chairman of the President's Liberal Party, is currently Rhee's favorite protege.)

Ambassador Muccio reports that National Assembly members questioned the Prime Minister and two other cabinet members on 23 May in connection with the recent anti-Assembly demonstrations, the latest of which was in progress at the time. The Ambassador comments that the opposition members are definitely apprehensive both as to their personal safety and the fate of constitutional government in the ROK. The ugly aspects of the current demonstrations against the Assembly members are the principal reasons for their reported decision to hold the presidential elections within two weeks.

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OCI 6017
27 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Except for probing attempts by enemy platoons against the 1st ROK Division on the western front, ground action was characterized by patrol clashes. On the eastern front heavy enemy artillery firing continued.

Navy

Naval air units destroyed freight cars, gasoline dumps and a railroad bridge at Wonsan. Surface vessels maintained the blockade of both coasts.

Air

During the past 24 hours UN aircraft flew 980 sorties which included 87 reconnaissance and 619 combat missions. Ten UN bombers again attacked the railroad bridge at Sinhong-dong. Two MIG-15's were engaged. One MIG-15 was destroyed without friendly damage.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command reports [REDACTED] the southward movement of large numbers of Chinese Communist troops along the coastal route of northeast Korea. These troops, armed with the latest weapons, move at night. Naval pilots report the southward movement of "hundreds of ox carts" in the vicinity of Hungnam. FECOM comments that no Chinese Communist units are currently accepted in northeast Korea nor have there been any reports of their presence there in great numbers. (These reports, if true, would suggest that additional Chinese troops are being moved into Korea from Manchuria by the circuitous northeastern route in order to avoid 5th Air Force harassment.)

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III. General Situation

Propaganda

Soviet, Chinese, Hungarian, Mongolian and North Korean delegates to a "Coordinating Conference for Victory over the Anglo-American Imperialist Invasion of Korea" convened on 4 May at the North Korean Foreign Office building, according to information provided by a secretly anti-Communist North Korean. While no immediate program was adopted, the conference decided to establish committees to investigate purported UN war crimes and atrocities. The conference allegedly was called under Soviet instructions in order to prepare propaganda material for several Communist-sponsored peace conventions this summer.

Political

The US Embassy reports that since early on 25 May, President Rhee has taken a series of high-handed actions towards the political opposition. Four Assemblymen have been arrested and 15 or 16 other opposition members are in hiding.

The imposition of martial law by the ROK Military Police has been used as an excuse for this action. Some 44 Assemblymen were held incommunicado by the Military Police on 26 May. The recently appointed Prime Minister, Chang, finding his telephone wires cut and himself under virtual arrest, has resigned.

The UN Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation in Korea called on Rhee on 26 May and expressed a sense of shock at this series of events. The President was unimpressed. The US Embassy is under the impression that the President is operating on the assumption that the UN and the United States will not intervene and will sit by and watch the demise of democratic government in Korea.

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DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

UN forces captured a hill position on the extreme western end of the front after a three-hour engagement with the enemy. Action along the remainder of the front was characterized by enemy platoon-size probings and artillery shelling.

Navy

Naval surface units attacked enemy supply installations, including billeting areas near the mouth of the Yalu.

Air

UN aircraft flew 723 sorties including 77 reconnaissance and 401 combat missions. Only two airborne MIG-15's were observed during the period. One MIG-15 was destroyed. No significant bombing operations were reported.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

The Far East Command on 27 May estimated that the enemy has a total of 1,115 aircraft based in Manchuria and that this overwhelming superiority gives him a major offensive capability. The home bases of UN F-86's, as well as the headquarters of both our ground and air forces in Korea, are well within the combat radius of the 350 jet and 35 piston fighters based at Antung, Tatungkou, Takushan and Sinuiju. Only a few miles farther inland on the Anshan-Mukden airfields, 30 light bombers, 240 jet and 85 piston fighters are in position to provide support as well as additional shock power for a striking force.

Although there are no indications of an impending air offensive, FECOM notes that the Communists have sufficient aircraft, personnel, air facilities and logistic support to launch an offensive without warning in which UN planes, crowded on Kimpo and Suwon airfields, would quite possibly sustain more than 50 percent destruction from the initial attack. Such losses would necessitate forfeiture of offensive aerial superiority in favor of defense tactics.

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III. General Situation

Political

During the course of a call paid to President Rhee by General Van Fleet and US Charge Lightner, the South Korean chief executive indicated that ROK Army Chief of Staff Lee is being removed for implication in the "plot" against Rhee.

In reply to Lightner's comments that the world would view present developments in Pusan as drastic police measures designed to prevent the legislature from proceeding, Rhee stated that "gangsters" had obtained control of the Assembly. The President claimed, however, that within two months a duly elected National Assembly could be operative since the principal traitors in the Assembly would be put out of the way and their places taken by true representatives of the people.

The Embassy comments that while Rhee no doubt has a large popular following, most of the potential leadership of South Korea such as the intellectuals, businessmen, an increasing number of government officials and army officers would welcome a change. Few are willing to take a positive stand under present circumstances. Rhee is determined to get rid of his enemies at all costs. The Embassy believes that further informal representations will be ineffective and stronger action seems required.

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OCI 6019
29 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

UN patrols and raiding parties on the western front encountered stubborn resistance and heavy mortar fire before forcing the enemy into a local withdrawal. Enemy patrols were active on the eastern front.

Navy

Naval surface units maintained the blockade of both coasts. The interdiction of supply routes by naval aircraft was also continued.

Air

Of a total of 830 sorties flown by UN forces during the period there were 72 reconnaissance and 456 combat missions. Preliminary reports indicate that three MIG-15's were destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

The UN Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea on the evening of 28 May delivered a statement of its views to President Rhee. Noting that the National Assembly had voted, in accordance with Constitutional provision, for the lifting of martial law, UNCURK recommended an end to the emergency state in Pusan and the release of all arrested Assemblymen. (The Assembly voted 96 to 3 on 28 May for the rescinding of martial law. Rhee, however, has so far ignored the vote.)

The local news blackout on the South Korean political situation ended on 28 May as most Pusan newspapers not directly affiliated with the government carried accounts of the arrest of Assemblymen. Most accounts were reasonably complete but cautiously worded as the press and radio continued to be subject to government censorship.

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OCI 6020
31 May 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Probing action by enemy patrols of up to company size constituted the ground activity across the front for the last 48 hours. Friendly divisions maintained their positions.

Navy

UN air and naval craft maintained blockade action on both coasts.

Air

On 29 May UN aircraft flew 768 missions, including 424 combat flights. No MIG's were encountered. On 30 May, UN aircraft flew 388 effective sorties including 112 combat and 227 transport flights. Six MIG-15's were encountered and two were destroyed while one F-51 was lost.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 48 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

President Rhee informed the American Charge on 30 May that martial law in the Pusan area would be lifted "shortly."

During the same conversation, when the American official pointed out that all the arrested assemblymen were members of Rhee's opposition, the President angrily accused the United States and UNCURK of interfering in ROK internal affairs.

Radio Pusan announced on 31 May that two more members of the National Assembly have been arrested. The number of Assemblymen now arrested or imprisoned totals eleven.

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ROK Vice-president and opposition leader, Kim Songsu, was admitted as a patient aboard a US Navy hospital ship on 29 May after he issued a resounding denunciation of the Rhee regime. The US Charge comments that the American Embassy and Navy are therefore open to charges by Rhee of harboring an enemy of state.

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OCI 6021
2 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

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I. Military Operations

Army

Enemy platoon size patrols continued their probing action across the entire front. All friendly units in contact maintained their positions.

Navy

UN air and surface naval units maintained the blockade of both Korean coasts.

Air

UN aircraft flew 751 effective sorties during the last 24 hours, of which 397 were combat missions. No MIG-15's were reported as encountered or destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

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[REDACTED] several Chinese Communist soldiers of the 65th Army stated that that unit and the 64th Army are soon to be replaced in Korea by "newer-trained Chinese armies." (These two armies have been in action since the Chinese entered Korea.)

III. General Situation

Political

The American Charge reports that some ROK officials, particularly among the military, are now not so sure that Rhee will win the current dispute. The three Chiefs of Staff are urging the Defense Minister to restore civil authority in Pusan "to get the Army out of it." Opposition leaders claim that some of the Assemblymen who supported Rhee two weeks ago have now crossed over to his opponents.

According to a Reuters dispatch from Pusan the ROK Government yesterday accused its allies of "interfering with internal affairs" and threatened to oust all UN agencies. An official ROK spokesman declared that two American organizations and a UN agency "had interested themselves beyond their jurisdiction."

The seven provincial assemblies have passed resolutions declaring that the National Assembly has lost the confidence of the nation, and that new general elections should be held as soon as possible. The assemblies also approved the establishment of martial law in Pusan and opposed interference by foreign powers in ROK internal affairs.

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OCI 6022
3 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Ground action across the entire front was characterized by scattered probes by enemy and friendly troops. All UN units maintained their positions.

Navy

UN naval surface units attacked railroad and other supply facilities while maintaining the blockade of both Korean coasts. No naval air action was reported.

Air

During the past 24 hours UN and US aircraft flew 1,011 sorties of which 647 were combat missions. For the second straight day no enemy fighters were reported as encountered or destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

UN pilots on 25 May observed eight unidentified aircraft, probably jet type, which appeared to be larger than the MIG fighter. Far East Air Force comments that on the basis of this and previous reports of the existence in the Far East of a Soviet fighter larger than the MIG-15, the Russians may be preparing to combat test either an improved version of the MIG or a new jet fighter.

III. General Situation

Political

Rhee has directed Prime Minister Chang to issue an ultimatum to opposition Assemblymen that they must agree to his direct election amendment to the constitution by 3 June or he will dissolve the Assembly. The Prime Minister informed American officials that the opposition is standing firm against this dictation. He also stated that he would refuse to sign the document dissolving the Assembly, and expects to be fired.

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American Charge Lightner, after a conversation with members of the UN Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, reports that pursuit of a tentative UNCURK plan to invite President Rhee and key members of the opposition to a joint conference under its auspices would now be useless. He said that the President would not be deterred from his present course by normal diplomatic approaches while the Assembly would accept no compromise which included Rhee in the government.

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OGI 6023
4 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Friendly patrols on the central front were in 20 instances engaged by enemy forces of platoon strength. Enemy probing on the western front increased during the period, but no enemy action was reported from the eastern front.

Navy

Naval air and surface units maintained the blockade of both Korean coasts, attacking enemy lines of communication and supply.

Air

UN air activity was light. During the period 338 sorties were flown including 146 combat missions. No fighter action was reported.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

Far East Command reports that the presence of elements of the 40th Chinese Communist Forces Army in the 64th CCF Army area is revealed by documents taken from the body of a Chinese soldier which identified him as belonging to the 119th Division of the 40th Army. It is noted by FECOM, however, that despite "strong indications" that elements of the 119th Division are in the sector previously occupied by the 190th Division, there is at present insufficient evidence to warrant a change from currently accepted dispositions of the two armies.

III. General Situation

Political

A press service states that Britain has joined the United States in protests to President Rhee over political developments in Pusan.

In a very vaguely worded 2 June press release, Rhee notes rumors, which he credits to "anti-government factions," that "US aid will be cut out unless the wave of political fire dies down." He comments that all Koreans are determined

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not to yield their right to independence even under the threat of starvation. Rhee concludes that "all friendly nations" will give assistance "for the sake of righteousness rather than for the sake of certain individuals or groups."

Propaganda

Radio Pyongyang on the four days beginning 25 May broadcast the court trial of four North Korean "traitors" who committed many alleged barbarities in collusion with American imperialists during the UN occupation of North Korea. (In "proving" the blackness of Americans, the propaganda broadcast details of how 35,000 North Koreans were exterminated in one county during the Occupation. In contrast to these American activities, Radio Pyongyang on 28 May described the efforts of a Rumanian medical team among Korean school children.)

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OCI 6024
5 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Ground operations across the front were limited to clashes between UN and enemy patrols and minor probing actions. An unspecified number of enemy tanks were observed near Punji on the western front.

Navy

UN naval and air units continued to bombard enemy supply lines and rear installations on both coasts.

Air

Of 844 effective sorties flown by UN aircraft during the past 24 hours, 545 were combat missions. UN fighter patrols observed airborne MIG-15's in the Yalu River area. Only two of these were engaged. No MIG-15 nor friendly losses were reported.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

A UN F-51 pilot on 31 May, while observing two MIG-15's or Type-15's which were probably on a reconnaissance mission, stated that one of the enemy planes fired what appeared to be two rockets. Fifth Air Force comments that this is the first observation of the possible use of rockets by MIG-type aircraft in Korea, and it is possible that the Communists are experimenting with rockets on such planes for use in a ground attack role. Far East Air Force states that the Soviets have the capability of mounting such rockets on MIG's and that they are fully conscious of the advantages of this type of weapon in both an air-to-air and air-to-ground role.

Far East Command reports two new Communist airstrips under construction in the east central front area. No aircraft have been noted on either strip. There appear to be objects such as low bushes scattered over the runways with a possible attempt at camouflage.

FECOM comments that the two new strips could be used by Communist light aircraft in night intruder or heckler missions against front line positions.

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III. General Situation

Cease-fire

Two North Korean prisoners of war captured during the middle of May reported that their officers are telling the troops that the armistice talks have failed because the UN persists in fighting. The US Eighth Army comments that up to now some hope of an eventual armistice had usually been expressed by Communist briefing officers, and these are the first statements of flat failure.

Political

American Charge Lightner reports that although President Rhee backed down on his 3 June threat to dissolve the Assembly, he is achieving the same result through the maintenance of martial law, the retention of the imprisoned Assemblymen, and threats of more arrests and violence to those Assemblymen who might come out of hiding to attend Assembly meetings.

The Speaker of the Assembly stated on 4 June that 11 members of the Assembly are under arrest, 20 known to be in hiding, the 52 pro-Rhee members are under orders to boycott sessions, 83 members of the opposition are in attendance while the whereabouts of the remaining 15 is unknown. A quorum of 92 is necessary to do business and two thirds of the total number is necessary to elect the President.

(Reuters reports that the Assembly met on 5 June with 93 present, the first time a quorum has been present since 2 June. It may be that Rhee's tactics have changed, since in a 4 June public statement he threatened the Assembly with dissolution in a few days if they failed to "settle the issues.")

Pro propaganda

Radio Pyongyang announced on 3 June that the North Korean regime has decided to participate in the Olympic games in Helsinki on 8 July.

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OCI 6025
6 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

There was little ground action across the Korean front. The most noteworthy activity occurred on the eastern front, where the enemy repulsed a UN raiding party with heavy artillery fire.

Navy

Naval action was again marked by surface and air attacks in support of the coastal blockade of Korea, as well as by the harassing of enemy lines of communication and supply.

Air

UN aircraft flew 957 effective sorties. Combat missions comprised 582 of the total flights. For the third straight day the Far East Air Force failed to report any significant fighter action.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

A recently-captured Chinese prisoner of war stated that a movement against rank-consciousness exists in the Chinese Communist forces. When an officer mistreats a soldier, according to the POW, the officer is punished in the same manner as violators of the "San Fan" campaign. ("San Fan" was aimed principally at corruption, waste and bureaucracy in Chinese military and civilian organizations. It is conceivable, therefore, that maltreatment of enlisted men by officers might be interpreted as military bureaucratism. Evidence is lacking, however, of widespread hostility between officers and men in the Chinese Communist Forces.)

III. General Situation

Political

Charge Lightner in Pusan reports that a South Korean Government publicity release of 4 June was his first indication that the mass demonstrations scheduled for 7 June in Pusan had been postponed. On 3 June Rhee threatened his cabinet

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with the demonstration and march on Pusan and told Lightner they would take place.

The Charge comments that while the immediate reason for the delay may be the hope that the Assembly is sufficiently intimidated to submit, Rhee may also be aware of the incongruity of disorders in a city under martial law and the possibility that the UN might be forced to take action to safeguard the port.

Charge Lightner reports that intimidation of the press, and not censorship, is being used as the chief Rhee weapon to control papers and to produce copy favorable to the administration. As examples of the technique, the Charge cites the 25 May token raid by hoodlums on one paper and the arrest of the chief editor of the principal opposition daily for "passing false rumors." The editor was released shortly after a USIS officer inquired about the incident.

A positive propaganda approach by the administration is seen in the variety of posters appearing throughout Pusan, attributed to the White Skeleton Society, urging dissolution of the Assembly and opposing the reliance of "traitors" on foreign intervention.

Economic

Economic development in the Republic of Korea has been at a virtual standstill during the current political turmoil. South Korean officials have made no effort to implement the recently concluded Unified Command-ROK economic agreement, and Finance Minister Paek has even intimated that financial settlements might not be made at all.

Meanwhile, the ROK has taken no positive steps to implement the tungsten agreement signed two months ago. The US Embassy comments that one of the reasons for this inaction by ROK officials is undoubtedly to embarrass the United States "for interfering in Korean internal affairs."

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OCI 6026
7 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Brief probes and patrol contacts characterized the action across the front. In the western sector a company-sized UN raiding party occupied an objective and then repulsed an enemy counterattack.

Navy

UN surface units continued to maintain the blockade of both Korean coasts. Naval air sorties totaled 269.

Air

UN aircraft under FEAF control flew 1,169 sorties, including 580 combat missions. Seven MIG-15's were destroyed and two damaged. No UN planes were lost.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

Five North Korean "youths" in a small boat who surrendered to a US Navy vessel five miles at sea claimed to be members of an underground movement fleeing from the Communists. They asserted they had avoided conscription during the past year by hiding in the hills. (Previous reports indicate that there are some small dissident groups in North Korea. However, rigid governmental security measures and a lack of coordination on the part of the disaffected groups seriously curtail the possible scope of their activities.)

III. General Situation

Propaganda

Radio Pyongyang on 1 June issued a lengthy propaganda statement on the current South Korean political turmoil. Quoting liberally from various US and foreign press services, the Communist organ played up the arrest of

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Assemblymen, the imposition of martial law, and public demonstrations. The broadcast concluded that "Syngman Rhee, archtraitor who must face stern judgment by the 30 million Korean people, ... is now throwing his shameful fate into a grave which he himself has dug." (This is the first known propaganda reference to the present political situation in South Korea. The Communist media are expected, however, to become increasingly vocal on this subject.)

Political

Ambassador Muccio came away from his first visit with President Rhee since returning to Korea with the impression that Rhee will continue adamant.

A leader of the opposition group in the Assembly is reported by a Nationalist Chinese news agency to have stated that no matter what happens, the present Assembly will not re-elect Rhee.

It now appears that the mass demonstrations originally scheduled for 7 June will take place within the next few days, although the number of persons involved will be smaller than anticipated. American officials in outlying areas report that groups are being assembled for the journey to Pusan. Although these groups have reportedly been ordered to avoid violence, various forms of pressure on the Assemblymen can be expected.

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OCI 6027
9 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Ground

Enemy activity during the last 24 hours was confined to scattered patrol clashes across the front. All UN divisions maintained their positions.

Navy

UN naval air and surface forces maintained the blockade of both Korean coasts and attacked enemy lines of communication.

Air

Of 877 effective sorties flown by UN aircraft during the period, 544 were combat missions. No enemy fighter action was reported.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command accepts, as of 7 June, the relief of two front-line divisions of the 64th Chinese Communist Army by two divisions of the Chinese Communist 40th Army. The 64th Army will now be carried, location unconfirmed, behind the battle line in the vicinity of Kumchon.

III. General Situation

Political

According to a Reuters dispatch, President Rhee on 8 June issued a compromise proposal for settlement of the political crisis. Rhee proposed that the President be elected by the Assembly this year, and by popular vote in the future. He further demanded immediate approval of his plan for a bicameral legislature.

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Propaganda

Peiping, Pyongyang and Moscow radios are making increasing references to the current political strife in South Korea. The Communist organs claim that the imposition of martial law is a result of increased guerrilla activities throughout South Korea.

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OCI 6028
10 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

A Chinese Communist battalion launched a one hour attack against ROK positions in central Korea, while other Chinese elements, supported by nearly 1,000 rounds of mortar and artillery fire, probed US positions in west central Korea. Brief probes and patrol clashes characterized action on the rest of the front.

Navy

UN naval air and surface craft attacked enemy lines of communications and coastal troop installations on the east and west coasts. The UN blockade was maintained.

Air

Land based aircraft under Far East Air Force control flew 1,076 sorties of which 658 were combat. Medium bombers raided an enemy railroad bridge in northeastern Korea. No air-to-air combat was reported.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

The relief of the 12th Chinese Communist Army, previously on the line in the central sector, by the 60th CCF Army has been accepted by Far East Command. The relieved 12th will now be carried in immediate supporting distance of the front. The 12th, 15th and 60th Armies comprising the 3rd Army Group are now concentrated within a specified sector of the front.

Far East Command has also accepted the forward displacement of the CCF 38th Army from the Suncheon area to the vicinity of Ichon.

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III. General Situation

Political

The first in a series of Pusan mass meetings demanding dissolution of the National Assembly and adoption of the Rhee-sponsored constitutional amendments was held on 9 June. The meeting was a dismal failure, with only 400-500 persons attending, most of whom dropped out during the march to the President's residence.

President Rhee's reaction to the UNCURK letter of 7 June offering the Commission's assistance was negative. Rhee was not interested in compromise, stating that the Assembly was "coming around" and would finally agree to his amendments.

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[REDACTED] Yi Pcm-sok, present Minister of Internal Affairs and Rhee's executive in the current imbroglio, will soon replace S'in Tae-yong as Minister of Defense. (The moving of Yi Pcm-sok into this post may be an attempt by Rhee to forestall developing anti-Rhee sentiment in high army circles.)

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OCI 6029
11 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

For the second straight day the enemy aggressively probed UN positions in west central and east central Korea. An estimated Chinese company, supported by over 4,000 rounds of mortar and artillery fire, and by fire from armored vehicles, made minor penetrations in positions of the US 45th Division near Mabang in the west. After a two hour fight the enemy withdrew.

In the east near Yulsa, the ROK Capital Division received a company size probing attack causing the withdrawal of a ROK outpost position. Minor probes and patrols occurred along the rest of the front.

Navy

UN naval surface units shelled Communist coastal installations and transportation routes along both coasts, while naval aircraft attacked similar objectives.

Air

Only 237 combat sorties were flown in the 589 effective sorties flown by UN land based aircraft. Fifteen medium bombers were scheduled for various night missions in North Korea. Ten of these attacked a railroad bridge over the Chongchon River under bright moonlight conditions. Three were aggressively attacked by enemy fighters with a resultant loss of two B-29's and damage to the other UN aircraft.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

During the week ending 8 June, Communist MIG-15 pilots initiated only two of the reported 16 encounters with UN Sabre jets, a marked contrast to the enemy's aggressiveness during the previous six weeks. Far East Air Force comments that the high number of kills scored by friendly pilots on 6 June (7 MIG's destroyed) and lack of aggressiveness may indicate that a new Communist unit has entered combat.

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III. General Situation

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Political



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Ambassador Muccio reports that the National Assembly failed to achieve a quorum on 10 June, with only 89 members present. [REDACTED] a quorum in the future is doubtful. Two or three members are summoned to the police station every morning for questioning, while several other members have received visits from plain-clothes detectives in the last two days in an apparent intimidation attempt. Five members were unable to return to Pusan on 10 June because of "car trouble."

The US Military Attache has been informed that Col. "Snake" Kim, Chief of the South Korean Army CIC, generally considered a loyal supporter of the President, submitted information to the ROK Acting Chief of Staff on 9 June that no evidence has been uncovered to link the 12 arrested Assemblymen with a Communist plot. Kim reported that Rhee is aware of this but that a release would be difficult, since the President would have to admit the original arrests were a mistake. (This type of report seems out of character for Kim in view of his loyalties and may represent a maneuver on the part of Rhee or his underlings.)

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Security InformationOCI 6030
12 June 1952

D A I L Y K O R E A N B U L L E T I N

I. Military Operations

Army

Action was again heavy on 11 June in the Mabang area of the west central front held by the US 45th Division. A Chinese battalion, preceded by a heavy concentration of artillery and mortar and accompanied in their attack by barrage fire, engaged US outpost positions. The enemy withdrew after a one hour fight and an artillery duel. At midnight another attack, later repelled, was launched on a 45th Division outpost. A US battalion raiding party met determined resistance southeast of Mabang early in the morning of 12 June.

Navy

UN surface vessels bombarded enemy installations on both the east and west coasts of North Korea. Although naval air units on the east coast were not airborne, aircraft from the light carrier "Bataan" attacked west coast installations south of Pyongyang.

Air

UN aircraft under Far East Air Force flew 977 effective sorties, of which 520 were combat. Medium bombers attacked transportation targets on the east coast. Twenty-seven Communist MIG-15's were airborne on the afternoon of 11 June. Nine were encountered with three destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

Just before noon on 11 June, UN F-86 pilots observed 130 swept-wing aircraft on Antung, Tatungkuo, and Takushan airfields. Two swept-wing planes were also observed on Sinuiju airfield (not ordinarily used by enemy jets).

One of the US B-29's lost yesterday in a night raid over northwestern Korea was apparently destroyed by hits from air-to-air rockets fired by a MIG-15. Far East Air Force observes that while there have been other reports of enemy use of air-to-air rockets in Korea, this is the first instance where they were used by MIG-15's. FEAF adds, in respect to this 10 June night encounter, that this is the first confirmed loss of a UN aircraft to enemy night fighter activity and that the attack was a "well planned, integrated effort with seeming ground-to-air and air-to-air coordination."

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III. General Situation

Propaganda

The current South Korean political crisis was exploited by Radio Moscow in a 10 June broadcast in German as showing the nature of the "antipopular character of the US terror regime in South Korea" and illustrating "the type of democracy in whose name the US and British interventionist are laying waste" Korea. (While no major theme is developed in the broadcast, this is the first noted exploitation of the ROK imbroglio by the USSR.)

Political

According to a late press dispatch some 10,000 people gathered in Pusan on 12 June to demonstrate in favor of President Rhee. The demonstrators claimed the National Assembly was both "corrupt and traitorous." No violence was reported.

Ambassador Muccio reports that the reconvened court martial trial of So Min-ho, opposition National Assemblyman accused of the murder of a South Korean Army captain, gives an Embassy observer the impression that So will be convicted as a symbol of Rhee's political opposition. This assumption is based on such reasons as the detention of So incommunicado, the replacement of the two civilian and one military judge after the beginning of the trial and the court declaration that the jurisdictional powers of the martial law commander and the court martial are unlimited.

The Manager of the Pusan radio station was ordered by Dr. Clarence Ryee, South Korean Public Information Director, on 11 June to discontinue all Voice of America relays over the Korean Broadcasting System effective 12 June. (The actual reason for the ban is undoubtedly connected with a statement made by Ryee to US officials that the South Korean Government is preparing a formal protest to the State Department. The note allegedly will object to VOA commentary featuring press editorials criticizing President Rhee as a "dictator.")

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OCI 6031
13 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Evidencing defensive and offensive capabilities, enemy battalions offered stubborn resistance to UN raiding parties and launched attacks supported by a heavy volume of artillery and mortar. Most of the action took place near Mabang on the western front and Tuchon in the central sector.

Navy

UN surface units continued to blockade and bombard both Korean coasts. Naval air sorties, totalling 244, were concentrated in the Songjin-Wonsan area.

Air

During the 24-hour period, UN aircraft flew 925 sorties including 539 combat. No enemy fighters were engaged. Early morning visual reconnaissance revealed 10 aircraft on Antung, 60 on Tatungkou and 60 on Takushan.

II. Military Intelligence

Ground

Based on the statements of recently-captured prisoners of war, Far East Command has accepted the relief of the 42nd Chinese Communist Army by the 38th. The 42nd, which was previously on the line, is now carried in the immediate rear.

Guerrilla

Far East Command reports that Communist guerrilla strength in South Korea is at its lowest ebb since the beginning of the Korean war. It is noted, however, that despite the indicated reduction in overall strength, captured agents and line crossers reveal that the enemy has not relaxed his efforts to rebuild the guerrilla organization which was badly shattered last winter during Operation Ratkiller. (Infrequent guerrilla attacks tend to confirm the fact that the Communist partisans, on orders from Pyongyang, are devoting their efforts to augmenting and reorganizing their five branches in South Korea.)

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III. General Situation

Political

The Chief of Staff of the ROK 9th Division has reported that a serious morale situation is developing, particularly among junior officers, as a result of recent Korean political events. (While similar reports have been received on the morale of staff and headquarters officers, this is the first such report from a combat unit.)

Radio Pusan announced on 9 June that during the period 16 June to 15 July amnesty would be granted to all stragglers, AWOL's and deserters who desire to serve again. The surrender places are the martial law headquarters in Pusan, military police stations, and other locations. (Surrenders under previous amnesty programs have been at police stations. The inclusion of the martial law headquarters on this occasion suggests an attempt to augment the troop strength available to the provost marshal in Pusan, whose requests for additional troops have been denied.)

Cease-fire Talks

Radio Peiping reported on 11 June that two UN military aircraft violated the cease-fire security zone in the vicinity of Panmunjom on 7 June.

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OCI 6032
14 June 52

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

US troops from the 45th Division took two hills in the Mabang area of the west central sector following a vigorous Chinese defense. Strong enemy night-time probes against the two positions were repulsed. On the central front, Chinese troops in company strength probed ROK positions near Kumsong. Minor patrol clashes occurred along the rest of the line.

Navy

UN naval aircraft and surface vessels continued the blockade of both North Korean coasts.

Air

During the past 24 hours UN aircraft flew 999 effective sorties including 574 combat and 190 transport missions. No enemy aircraft sightings were reported. Visual reconnaissance revealed only 15 enemy aircraft at Antung and 30 at Tatungkou while Takushan was closed in by weather.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports were received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

The largest anti-Assembly meeting to date occurred on 12 June in Pusan when some 8,000 persons, most of whom had been brought by truck to the location of the meeting, were incited by speakers to call for the dissolution of the National Assembly and to resist "foreign" interference. One speaker "threatened to oppose the President himself if he fails to dissolve the Assembly." The crowd, consisting of representatives of local governments, women workers from the government controlled Chosun Spinning Company, students, Youth Corps members, and other citizens, was orderly and passive in the face of inflammatory slogans and vitriolic speeches.

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Ambassador Muccio reports that National Assemblyman Yi Chong-hyong, formerly a strong supporter of President Rhee, interviewed Rhee on 10 June. Yi told the President that the "will of the people" was being manufactured by the police and other officials. Rhee said that this was "completely wrong" and that he still intended to secure direct presidential election and the establishment of a bicameral legislature. Rhee then attempted to obtain Yi's support in the Assembly to "get these things done smoothly." Yi stated that this could not be done until the imprisoned assemblymen were released and martial law raised.

Muccio reports further that Korean police, uniformed and in civilian garb, are carefully surveilling the US Embassy in Pusan. Both entrances are under constant observation by "little men with notebooks." The dearth of Korean visitors during the past few days leads the ambassador to conclude that the police have had "little talks" with would-be visitors.

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OCI 6033
16 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The Mabang area of the west central sector was again active as two outposts of the US 45th Division were attacked by Chinese forces in undetermined strength. The enemy in company strength forced the withdrawal of a ROK 6th Division outpost in the east central Kumsong area. Stubborn North Korean and Chinese resistance was encountered by UN raiding parties in both the west central and eastern sectors. Of 2,800 rounds of artillery and mortar fire received by the 1st US Marine Division, 2,300 fell in the sector of the attached Korean Marine Regiment.

Navy

Due to communication difficulties, no information on naval activities was received.

Air

UN land-based aircraft under Far East Air Force control flew 901 missions, of which 563 were combat. No other information was received.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The Far East Command reports that vehicle sightings increased 10 percent during the period 7-13 June over the previous week and were considerably above comparable averages for full-moon periods. Seventy percent of sightings were south of the 39th Parallel, a very high figure equaled only once before. The main supply routes into the west central sector were the most heavily travelled.

Air

UN aerial observers report that the entire 6,200 feet of runway at Pyongyang east airfield was operational on 13 June after removal of some 74 dummy bomb craters. Some 3,400 feet of sod runway at Pyongyang main airfield was also observed to be operational. A concentrated attack of 150 UN fighter-bomber sorties on 14 June resulted in claims of 115 bomb hits on Pyongyang

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east and 8 hits on Pyongyang main airfields. (It is perhaps significant that on 13 June two conventional UN naval aircraft were attacked by MIG's in the Chinnampo area. The fact that UN radar did not pick up these hostile aircraft prior to the attack suggests either that the planes had come from Antung at very low altitudes or that the MIG's were based much closer to Chinnampo in North Korea. No swept-wing aircraft, however, have been observed on any North Korean airfield other than Uiju on the Yalu river.)

III. General Situation

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Political

Muccio states that in the last week Rhee has not made a single gesture that suggests a modification of his stand. While all groups in the Assembly admit that a compromise solution palatable to the free world is essential, Muccio has no hope for success so long as Rhee remains aloof.

Muccio reports that at a pro-Rhee mass meeting on the evening of 12 June, anonymous individuals distributed two printed handbills roundly condemning the President. That same night anti-Rhee posters signed by an unknown "Women's National Protection Corps" appeared in Pusan. As far as the Embassy is aware, this is the first time that anti-Rhee handbills or posters have been circulated in Pusan.

Propaganda

Radio Pyongyang on 15 June stated that the North Korean regime has protested to the UN over the Koje Island "atrocities."

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OCI 6034
17 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Supported by a heavy concentration of artillery, tanks and self-propelled guns, Chinese battalions during the nights of 15 and 16 June launched strong attacks against US 45th Division positions in the Mabang area. The enemy was forced to withdraw on both occasions by a heavy concentration of UN artillery fire. Determined enemy resistance was offered to raiding parties from the ROK 9th Division in the Chorwon sector and to the US 7th Division in the Tachon area in the east.

Navy

UN naval vessels continued the blockade of both Korean coasts. A total of 305 naval air sorties were flown.

Air

UN aircraft flew 690 effective sorties, of which 440 were combat missions. There were 98 daytime close support sorties attacking troops, bunkers, gun positions and buildings. F-86 pilots report observing 50 swept-wing aircraft on Antung, 75 on Tatungkou and 50 on Takushan airfields. A B-29 was attacked by three enemy aircraft, apparently jets, without damage.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

It was the opinion of US Embassy personnel in Pusan on 16 June that the National Assembly is stalling for time. There are some indications that opposition Assemblymen are losing heart and unconfirmed reports are circulating that some have gone over to Rhee's "Sam-U-Jang" group in the Assembly.

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During the National Assembly meeting on 14 June, demonstrators outside denounced the Assemblymen through loudspeakers. Generally orderly parades and demonstrations, led by Rhee's youth corps members, continued all day. In mid-afternoon 2000 marched to the Assembly compound under the direction of "hoodlum-type leaders" and listened to hysterical harangues. (Radio Pusan announced on 11 June that President Rhee had received a petition, bearing over a million signatures, which demanded the dissolution of the Assembly. Reports have been received which claim that groups purporting to represent local councils plan to seize the Assemblymen representing their local home districts.)

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OCI 6035
18 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

No major enemy action occurred during the period, although UN raiding parties and patrols met stiff resistance. In the western sector near Panmunjom, patrolling US Marines engaged in several fire-fights with stubborn Chinese defenders. A battalion-strength patrol from the 1st Commonwealth Division met heavy resistance in the Kigong area. Resistance was also encountered by patrols from the ROK 9th Division in the west central and the US 40th Division in the central sector.

Navy

UN naval air and surface craft on the east coast of North Korea attacked enemy supply routes and troop installations. Little activity occurred on the west coast.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew only 629 sorties, of which 316 were combat. Medium bombers flew 14 sorties against transportation targets on the east coast, an industrial installation south of Pyongyang, and took part in a close support mission. During the night of 16 June, a B-29 over the Chongchon River encountered a probable enemy jet which made a firing pass. No damage was sustained.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

The Far East Air Force reports that the 30 daylight sorties flown by enemy MIG-15's during the week of 9 to 16 June was the lowest number for nearly a year. Contrasted with this, 37 night sorties by all type enemy aircraft represents a new high in the Communists' night interception effort. FEAF further notes that the pattern of enemy daylight activity clearly indicates that pilots were not sent out for training but for combat. The aggressiveness of MIG-15's encountered points to the presence of "well-trained and proficient combat pilots." FEAF still estimates, however, that the enemy will not expand his air defense operations southward or initiate air offensive operations at this time.

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III. General Situation

Political

Martial Law Commander Won in Pusan has advised Ambassador Muccio the "conspiracy case" trials will begin within a few days. The trials will not be public although the Embassy, 8th Army and UNCURK have been invited to have two representatives each present. Muccio comments that "there is danger Rhee may be trying to use us for his purposes by having us present."

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OCI 6036
19 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

ROK 6th Division elements in the Kumsong area of the east central sector were attacked by two enemy companies, supported by self-propelled artillery and conventional artillery fire. Sporadic action is continuing. Farther to the east in the ROK 7th Division area, a UN raiding party was turned back from its objective near Mulguji by stubbornly resisting Chinese elements. Scattered probes and patrols occurred along the rest of the line.

Navy

Air and surface units of the UN naval force attacked enemy transportation targets and troop installations on both coasts.

Air

Land-based aircraft under control of the Far East Air Force flew 306 effective sorties, 82 of which were combat. Thirteen medium bomber missions were flown with the major target being the east coast city of Chongjin.

II. Military Intelligence

Materiel

The Eighth Army reports that dud enemy artillery shells picked up in the US 1st Marine Division sector in the west have been identified as Soviet 152mm ammunition. The type of fuze found on the shells, the RGM 34 K, is unknown in the Far East Command.

Air

The Far East Air Force reports that assessment of the damage inflicted by enemy night fighters on a B-29 on the night of 10-11 June reveals that 23mm cannons and not rockets were used in the attack. Air bursts observed by bomber crews that night were believed to have been from 37mm projectiles with self-destroying fuses.

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Rear Areas

The 9,037 enemy vehicles sighted by UN aerial observers during the week of 6 to 12 June was the second highest observed during a full moon period in 1952. The traffic pattern has shifted and the bulk of movement, 67 percent of which was below the 39th Parallel, was concentrated in the central area with some decrease on the eastern and western main supply routes.

III. General Situation

Political

Ambassador Muccio reports that the National Assembly convened on 18 June with 152 members present, the largest attendance since the beginning of the political crisis. Deciding to elect three temporary chairmen to replace the speaker and vice speakers whose terms expired on the 18th, the Assembly voted overwhelmingly in favor of the previous officers. Even Rhee's Sam-U-Jang group voted for the incumbents. Muccio comments that the Sam-U-Jang is as terrified of Rhee's threat to dissolve the Assembly as the opposition since they are not sure of regaining their seats.

The press reports that the "semi-secret" trials of the 14 South Koreans in the "conspiracy" case have begun. One of Rhee's supporters is credited with stating that the trial is closed both for security reasons and to protect the families and friends of some of the accused. The court is made up of seven military men and two civilians.

Economic

UN naval interrogation of enemy prisoners captured off eastern North Korea revealed that a zinc smelting plant in the interior northwest of Songjin was in continued operation and had never been bombed. The plant, which was run in conjunction with a zinc mine some 7 miles away, was under the supervision of 2 or 3 Soviet technical advisers. (While there is no record of a major zinc smelter in this area, North Korea produced upwards of 10,000 tons of refined zinc annually in the period immediately preceding the war. It is entirely possible that a zinc smelter is still in operation in North Korea under Soviet supervision.)

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OCI 6037
20 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

After launching five successive attacks against 6th ROK Division positions one and one half miles southeast of Kumsong, enemy troops of company and under-terminated size succeeded in taking part of a hill. Across the front the enemy fired 4700 rounds of mortar and artillery, of which 2400 rounds fell during the night.

Navy

UN naval surface units shelled Communist supply installations on both coasts. Naval aircraft attacked supply targets in support of these operations.

Air

More than 845 sorties were flown by UN land-based aircraft. Of these sorties, 503 were combat missions. Far East Air Force reported the first instance of a night attack by an enemy jet in the northeast area of North Korea.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

The Ambassador reports that in an 18 June conversation with Rhee the latter admitted he was at the end of his rope, tired and did not think he could carry on much longer. On the same day the President said that Yi Pom-sok, the Home Minister, and Ahn Ho-sang, head of Rhee's youth corps, were becoming quite a problem and he did not know what to do about it. (Yi is a senior member of the clique which now controls the police and is working for control of the army. Ahn recently made a violently anti-American speech in what was ostensibly an ex-temporaneous address.)

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Ambassador Muccio reports that

112 Assemblymen have now signed a resolution supporting a "Four

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Point Compromise" amendment to the Constitution. The legislation will probably be introduced on 20 June. The source thought the amendment would pass but warned that if the Assembly refused, a hunger strike would be staged before the presidential residence and Rhee would be forced to dissolve the Assembly.

The Ambassador comments that Rhee men and opposition are both avoiding commitment on the conduct of the next presidential election. (While the compromise amendment calls for popular election of the president, there is some question as to whether the next election should be by popular election or by the Assembly, as the Constitution now requires.)

The National Assembly on 19 June, with 109 members present, voted by 78 to zero an urgent motion to have a special committee investigate the government charges of an internal communist plot. (Presumably the pro-Rhee faction abstained from voting.)

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OCI 6038
21 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

An enemy battalion launched successive probes against US 45th Division positions in the Mabang area west of Chorwon following heavy concentrations of artillery and mortar fire but were forced to withdraw. Elsewhere along the front the enemy launched short-lived probes. UN raiding parties and patrols were effectively resisted.

Navy

Air and surface units of the UN naval force attacked enemy transportation targets and troop installations on both coasts.

Air

Land-based aircraft under control of the Far East Air Force flew 1034 effective sorties, of which 621 were combat. Ten medium bomber missions were flown in attacks on targets in enemy rear areas.

II. Military Intelligence

No significant reports have been received during the past 24 hours.

III. General Situation

Political

An English news agency reports from Pusan that the Democratic Nationalist Party, Rhee's principal opposition group, walked out of the National Assembly in a body on 21 June when discussions began on the compromise agreement to end the current ROK political crisis. The account continues that while the DNP favors the compromise solution, they will block its passage until Rhee raises martial law and releases the 12 Assemblymen currently under arrest.

The same press service quotes Home Minister Yi Pom-sok as saying that 4 persons had been arrested in the hoodlum attack on a private meeting of Rhee's opposition yesterday. He added, however, that those arrested claimed they broke into the

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meeting because they were refused admission and that they became "angry" when what was reportedly a cultural meeting turned into criticism of President Rhee. (The 20 June meeting of the recently formed Committee on Opposing Dictatorships and Defending the Constitution was attended by many of the most respected citizens of the ROK and was avowedly an anti-Rhee private political meeting.)

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OCI 6039
23 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Fighting continued in the west central Chorwon area as raiding parties from the US 45th and ROK 9th Divisions met heavy resistance from Chinese defenders. A regiment of the ROK 9th Division briefly occupied its objective, but disengaged under very heavy enemy pressure. In the east central Kumsong area, Chinese troops probed newly-won outpost positions of the ROK 6th Division without success.

Navy

While UN naval air units off eastern North Korea conducted no operations owing to resupplying, aircraft from the British carrier "Ocean" attacked enemy supply and troop installations south of Chinnampo. Naval surface vessels bombarded enemy lines of supply on both the east and west coasts.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 658 sorties, of which 291 were combat. Medium bombers flew five close support, leaflet, and surveillance missions. UN aerial observers reported 155 swept-wing aircraft on Yalu River fields on the morning of 22 June.

II. Military Intelligence

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Army

[REDACTED] on 13 May the North Korean VIII Corps left Sinanju with the 42nd Division leading the movement. Units of the corps, with an armored task force of 30 tanks attached, had reached and were bivouacked in the Yangdok area on 1 June. (The deactivation of the North Korean VIII Corps as a combat force was accepted over a year ago. Although there have been some unconfirmed reports of its reconstitution in northwestern Korea, the present existence of the VIII Corps or of its subordinate 42nd Division, never previously reported as a major North Korean unit, cannot be confirmed.)

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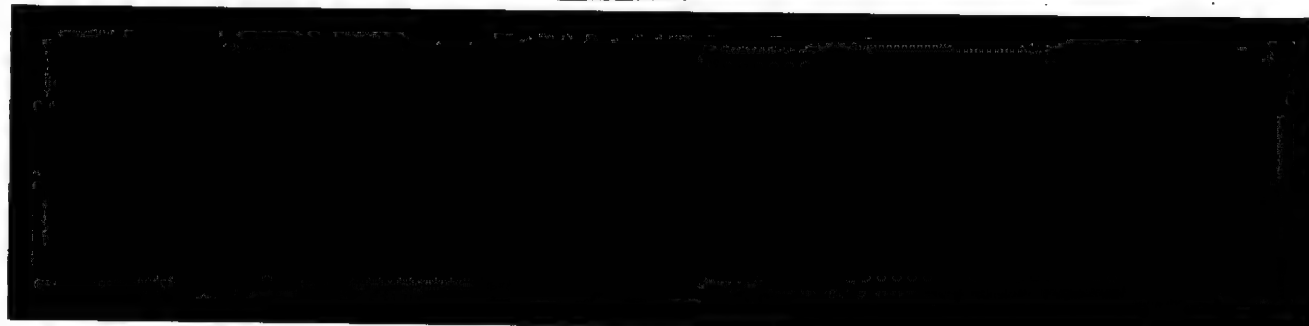
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III. General Situation

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Political



A British news agency reports from Pusan that Syngman Rhee won a minor victory in the National Assembly by a vote of 83-2 which extended his term of office to 15 August. A bill submitted by pro-Rhee supporters is under consideration which provides for an indefinite extension of Rhee's term until a new president is "elected according to the Constitution."

A South Korean Government spokesman has announced that the State Department reply to the South Korean explanation of why it banned "Voice of America" broadcasts was "unsatisfactory."

Ambassador Muccio reports only partial confirmation of press reports of the arrest of 20 students on 17 June. The Ambassador believes "some students" were arrested between the 17th and the 20th for condemning Rhee actions in the current crisis. There has apparently been pressure for about two weeks on the joint council of university student councils to pass resolutions demanding dissolution of the Assembly, direct presidential election and a bicameral legislature. Recent pro-Assembly statements, however, provoked the arrest of the students.

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OCI 6040
24 June 1952

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On 23 June the ROK National Assembly attained a quorum when Rhee's Sam-U-Jang group and Prime Minister Chang Taik-sang's Silla-ho group arrived together after an all-night conference. With most of Rhee's cabinet in attendance, and under the active leadership of the Rhee clique, the Assembly passed resolutions postponing the expiration of the President's term to 15 August and continuing the President in office "for the time being or until new elections are feasible." The only opposition members present were the Speaker and one or two others who asserted the resolutions were unconstitutional.

Ambassador Muccio observes that it is not clear what effect these resolutions will have and what the reaction from the opposition will be. The Ambassador adds that the resolutions could have the effect of continuing Rhee in office indefinitely, and, if so, "Rhee will have won his battle with the Assembly hands down — by a vote of 63 out of a total of 183."

Propaganda

During the past 10 days, Radio Pyongyang carried a number of broadcasts on the WFTU resolution calling for world solidarity with the Korean people on 25 June, the 2nd anniversary of the Korean war. These broadcasts called for the North Koreans to "repay" this solidarity by observing a day of "struggle" on that date. (Despite numerous low level reports of an impending enemy offensive on 25 June, there are no indications that any major action is contemplated. It is entirely possible, however, that the enemy will seek to increase the tempo of military pressure along the front on the anniversary day.)

Radio Pyongyang is reported to have failed to sign on at the scheduled time on 24 June. (It is not known whether this failure to come on the air was due to UN bombing of the Yalu River power complex.)

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OCI 6041
25 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Action along the front on the second anniversary of the beginning of the Korean war was limited to scattered patrol clashes and minor probes. UN positions along the line received almost 5,000 rounds of artillery and mortar fire.

Navy

A total of 562 sorties were flown by UN naval aircraft against targets on the east and west coasts. North Korean hydroelectric installations were again attacked in cooperation with aircraft from the Far East Air Force. Naval surface forces bombarded enemy shore installations.

Air

Land-based aircraft under Far East Air Force control flew 1,266 sorties. Of the 870 combat sorties, 342 were fighter-bomber attacks on the North Korean hydroelectric system. Medium bombers flew 29 missions, principally in close support of ground troops. Five enemy MIG-15's were encountered; one UN F-86 suffered major damage and crashed on landing.

II. Military Intelligence

Army

The North Korean IV Corp's "Advanced Command Post" at Sariwon was being converted on 11 June to serve as "Joint Chinese Communist-North Korean Headquarters on the Western Front," [REDACTED]

(North Korean IV Corps units have been concentrated in the Pyongyang area for over a year. There are no firm indications that the enemy intends to commit his well-trained and armor-equipped IV Corps in the Chinese-controlled western sector in the near future.)

III. General Situation

Economic

Preliminary bomb-damage analysis of the 23 June attack by the Far East Air Force and naval units indicates that the Supong (Suiho) hydroelectric system

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on the Yalu River is not operating. No turbines appeared to be in operation. Two large transformers, a generating plant and the main transformer switchyard suffered heavy damage. In the Changjin system north of Hungnam, the number four generating station was completely destroyed with substantial damage to the transformer yard. At generating plants three and four of the Pujon system, to the east of the Changjin, heavy damage was inflicted on the transformer yards. The generating capacity apparently was not decreased to a major extent. (The Supong system was estimated to be producing from 200,000 to 250,000 kilowatts of electricity for Manchuria and North Korea. Pujon plants three and four were rated at 12,000 kilowatts, and Changjin number four at about 15,000 kilowatts.)

Political

Reuters reports an unsuccessful attempt on 25 June to assassinate President Rhee while he was making a speech in a public plaza in Pusan. The would-be assassin, wearing western clothing, made his way through the guests on the rostrum to a point behind Rhee. After the unsuccessful attempt, he was seized unhurt by the police.

Radio Pusan announced on 24 June that Rhee made a personal appearance before some 1000 representatives of local assemblies staging a "hunger strike" before his temporary residence, to demand dissolution of the Assembly. The broadcast suggests that Rhee, in commenting on the Assembly's failure to dissolve itself voluntarily, "admitted for the first time" that something practical had to be done about the situation. (This appears to be additional pressure on the Assembly to pass the compromise resolution under consideration or face dissolution.)

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OCI 6042
26 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The scene of active fighting along the front shifted to the western sector during the period. Outpost positions of the US 1st Marine Division north of Panmunjom were subjected to repeated probing attacks by at least two Chinese companies. Heavy artillery and mortar fire was received by defending Marines during one encounter. Less than 20 miles to the northeast of this action, elements of a ROK 1st Division raiding party encountered determined enemy resistance in the Sangnyong area. Brief probes and patrol clashes occurred along the rest of the front.

Navy

UN naval air and surface craft maintained the blockade and attacked enemy troop, supply and transport installations on both Korean coasts. Naval aircraft flew 248 sorties, principally combat.

Air

UN land-based aircraft flew 528 combat sorties, of a total of 865 sorties flown by all types of aircraft. Medium bombers attacked an important railroad bridge in central North Korea. Of the 50 enemy MIG-15's observed in the air during the period, 41 were encountered by UN F-86's, with one MIG destroyed and one probably destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

During a morning aerial reconnaissance of the Yalu River airfields on 25 June, UN observers sighted a maximum of 270 swept-wing aircraft and 150 "large dark aircraft." Only one pilot observed the latter aircraft and photos taken in the afternoon did not confirm this sighting. In the early evening, other pilots observed about 250 MIG's on the three-field Yalu River complex.

UN Rear Areas

The US Military Attache in South Korea reports the formation of a well-organized Communist guerrilla force, called "the anti-American regiment," in two southwestern Korean provinces. Encounters have indicated that this new force is

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"well organized." (It is possible that this newly formed unit was responsible for the highly successful 25 June raid on a train in this area.)

III. General Situation

Political

In an address on 25 June, the ROK Home Minister Yi Pom-sok, strong man of the clique behind Rhee, assailed the "group" which had been responsible for all of South Korea's troubles in the past and which now was "misleading the nation by plotting to alienate our government from friendly nations abroad" and "inviting interference in our internal affairs." Yi noted that these acts "may not be directly motivated by the enemy." (This may be a veiled admission that no direct evidence of a Communist "conspiracy" can be found in the case of the arrested Assemblymen.)

Unconfirmed press reports quote South Korean Government sources as reporting that police have arrested two members of the Assembly in connection with the unsuccessful attempt on the life of President Rhee. A third Assemblyman is being sought. Reuters states that one Assemblyman "confessed" lending the would-be assassin a gun and driving him to the scene in a government car.

Ambassador Muccio reports that the conspiracy court martial of seven Assemblymen and seven private citizens continued on 24 June. The first defendant, a private citizen, called to the witness stand by the prosecution, told a story of Communist affiliation in 1949 and subsequent disillusionment. The defense suggested the court read leaflets written by the defendant since 1949 and note that they express opposition views, not a Communist conspiracy. The witness dramatically renounced his previous confession allegedly obtained by the police through torture.

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OCI 6043
27 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

In a day-long battle 4 miles east of Sangnyong on the western front, enemy groups of platoon-size drove elements of the ROK 1st Division from a hill which the division had seized earlier. The enemy counterattack was supported by more than 3500 rounds of artillery and mortar fire, as well as the fire of three armored vehicles. In the west central Mabang area, an enemy battalion engaged raiders from the US 45th Division. After a brief engagement the enemy was forced to withdraw.

Navy

Naval surface and air units continued the blockade of both Korean coasts. Naval air attacks were again concentrated on enemy supply lines and routes of communication.

Air

There were 932 effective sorties flown by UN land-based aircraft during the 24 hour period. Most of the 579 combat missions were armed reconnaissance flights and attacks on enemy installations in areas just behind the front lines. One flight revealed the presence of 180 aircraft on three Manchurian airfields.

II. Military Intelligence

Enemy Rear Areas

Enemy vehicle sightings by UN aerial observers during the period 13-19 June totaled 13,887, of which 75 percent were below the 39th parallel. Far East Air Force concludes that the enemy has moved considerable amounts of supplies southward into the forward supply zones. The Sibyon-Ichon area in the west was the destination of a major share of the southward traffic.

III. General Situation

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Political



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Ambassador Muccio reports on 27 June that the pressure campaign by the Rhee forces against Korean employees of US installations in the Pusan area has continued unabated during the past week. The Ambassador states that Embassy employees are now so thoroughly intimidated that they can be relied on only for routine duties within the Embassy building, and that, in the absence of a Korean-speaking American, the Embassy's coverage of political developments is becoming increasingly difficult.

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Central Intelligence Agency
Office of Current Intelligence
6044, 28 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

The enemy again concentrated his efforts in the west central sector on capturing a strategic hill southwest of Mabang from the US 45th Division. Chinese forces in this sector launched three night attacks in battalion strength, but were repulsed after five hours of heavy fighting. In the eastern sector, a company-size raiding party from the ROK 5th Division seized a strategic outpost position and repulsed a counterattack by a North Korean platoon.

Navy

UN naval aircraft flew 283 sorties in close support missions and against targets in North Korea. Supply installations and the electric power system were primary targets. Naval surface units maintained the blockade and bombarded shore targets.

Air

Of the 845 effective sorties flown by aircraft under Far East Air Force control, 455 were combat. Medium bombers attacked transportation targets in northeastern Korea. US F-86's observed 29 MIG-15's airborne; four were encountered and one destroyed.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

Shortly before noon on 27 June, UN aerial observers reported sighting 400 swept-wing aircraft on Antung, Takushan and Tatungkuo airfields in the Yalu River complex. (The figure 400, if correct, represents the second largest concentration of enemy jet fighters observed on the Yalu River airfields during the course of the war.)

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III. General Situation

Political

The UN Command reported on 27 June that further changes in the ROK Cabinet were expected. Reportedly present Home Minister Yi Pom-sok, militant leader of the pro-Rhee clique, is to become Minister of Defense. Yi's old position of Home Minister will go to An Ho-sang, present leader of the Taehan Youth Corps. (Frequent reports have been received stating that Yi Pom-sok would take over the Ministry of Defense as a final step to gain control of all military and paramilitary groups in South Korea. An Ho-sang's militant Taehan Youth Corps has been used as the major arm of the pro-Rhee clique in their intimidation campaign. An Ho-sang, former ROK Minister of Education, is an ultra-nationalist with little regard for the US.)

In a conversation with opposition members of the National Assembly on 24 June, ROK Prime Minister Chang Taek-sang reported that the pro-Rhee assembly group, the Sam-U-Chang, planned to introduce a motion of "self-dissolution." Chang added that some of the Sam-U-Chang members were resisting this move, however, if it were introduced, Chang's assembly group, the Silla Hoe, would go over completely to the anti-Rhee opposition.

Adopting another tack, the Rhee forces on 26 June marshalled a group of 123 individuals calling themselves the "All-Nation Peoples Self-Determination Delegates from Local Districts." This body encamped on the steps of the National Assembly and formally adopted a resolution "dissolving" the National Assembly. (Press reports of 28 June stated that a "500-strong mob" would not allow members to leave the National Assembly until a dissolution resolution was passed. One Assemblyman who attempted to leave was badly beaten. About 100 South Korean policemen took no action during the demonstration.)

Propaganda

In a 27 June broadcast to the Soviet Far East, Moscow repeated a story which originated in Pyongyang about the political crisis in South Korea. After a fairly factual account of events in the south, Moscow made the startling statement that "the mounting wrath of the people. . . is the main cause of the acutely tense atmosphere in South Korea." The broadcast continued that "partisan uprising" and popular indignation against the "horrible beastialities" committed against Communist POW's were also primary contributors to the state of emergency in the ROK.

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Central Intelligence Agency
Office of Current Intelligence
6045, 30 June 1952

DAILY KOREAN BULLETIN

I. Military Operations

Army

Chinese units continued pressure on newly won outpost positions of the US 45th Division in west central Korea on Saturday. Sunday's activity, however, was limited to a few enemy brief probes and patrol clashes, probably due to the fall of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain.

Navy

Naval surface craft bombarded enemy shore installations. No UN naval air operations were scheduled due to the weather.

Air

Land-based aircraft under Far East Air Force control flew 233 effective sorties, 83 of which were combat. Medium bombers flew 16 sorties against transportation targets in northwestern Korea.

II. Military Intelligence

Air

During the night of 26 June, a US B-29 flying at 24,000 feet over north central Korea observed an unidentified aircraft behind and below fire three rockets at 1,500 feet range. The rockets, traveling level in flight, evenly spaced, and leaving a white sparkling trail, passed directly under the B-29's tail and exploded 1,000 feet beyond the B-29 with a large white burst, the size of normal flak.

Far East Air Force comments that, although evidence is still too inconclusive to accept the use by the enemy of air-to-air rockets, an investigation is currently under way. (Two previous reports of the possible use of rockets by enemy aircraft were tentatively evaluated as tracer ammunition from aircraft guns.)

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III. General Situation

Political

On 30 June, President Rhee sent a message to the National Assembly stating that he "could not wait any longer" to dissolve the Assembly. His message, which was read by the Prime Minister, said that he cannot deny the will of the people any longer, and he must now find a method to accomplish the Assembly's dissolution. (An attempt by the Rhee forces within the National Assembly on 28 June to vote dissolution of that body was not passed.)

ROK General Choe Kyung-Nok, recently deposed presiding officer of the court martial of Assemblyman So Min-Ho, accused of homicide, informed American officials that he had received direct orders from the Pusan martial law commander General Won to complete the trial in two or three days and to produce a death sentence for So Min-Ho. General Choe stated that he was not convinced that So Min-Ho's self-defense plea was justified, but that he favored a one to three year sentence, with possible suspension or parole on good behavior. (It seems evident that Choe's removal from the trial was due to his moderate stand towards the defendant.)

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